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Auction Number 88
Thursday 8 May 2014

THE HEMISPHERE COLLECTION of Gold Sovereigns



To be held in the Council Chamber
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Date of Sale	Thursday 8 May 2014 Session One:	10.00 am	Lots 2001 - 2203
Public View	Monday 5 May 2014 [British Bank Holiday] A H Baldwin and Sons Ltd 11 Adelphi Terrace, London WC2N 6BJ 10.00 am - 4.00 pm		
	Viewing at all other times by appointment at 11 Adelphi Terrace during the preceding two weeks 9.30 am - 4.30 pm, Monday to Friday		
Order of Sale	Hammered Gold Sovereigns		
	Milled Gold Sovereigns		
	George III	Lots 2009 - 2012	
	George IV	Lots 2013 - 2025	
	William IV	Lots 2026 - 2033	
	Victoria	Lots 2034 - 2070	
	Edward VII	Lots 2071 - 2073	
	George V	Lots 2074 - 2078	
	Edward VIII	Lot 2079	
	George VI	Lot 2080	
	Elizabeth II	Lots 2081 - 2101	
	Australia	Lots 2102 - 2186	
	Canada	Lots 2187 - 2196	
	India	Lot 2197	
	South Africa	Lots 2198 - 2203	

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THE HEMISPHERE COLLECTION OF GOLD SOVEREIGNS

Introduction

The Hemisphere Collection of Gold Sovereigns was formed as part of a decade long plan, with the aim of constructing a comprehensive date collection of gold Sovereigns, not only of the modern period, but to also include the earlier hammered pieces of that denomination. The history of the gold Sovereign, the longest serving British gold denomination, 525 years as of 2014, was something that fascinated the Hemisphere collector, so starting in late 2003 the current owner began a quest to secure a Sovereign of each and every date, including each date for the Colonial mints, through the London numismatic trade and at public auction. The aim was to try to attain all the dates issued by every mint for the modern gold Sovereign, both from London and the colonies right up to present, as well as at least one example of a Sovereign for each monarch in the hammered gold series that produced one. The result is the catalogue in your hands, a diverse collection of Gold Sovereigns, unusually including both hammered and milled issues, with some exceptional rarities, amongst what is a complete run of monarchs for this denomination.

First introduced by King Henry VII (1485-1509), in October 1489, the denomination was current throughout the hand-struck hammered Tudor and Stuart periods. The Hemisphere Collection contains at least one example of each of the Tudor Monarchs – King Henry VII, King Henry VIII, King Edward VI, Queen Mary and Queen Elizabeth I, as well as the Stuart King James I. The collection was inspired by the coins featured in the publication *The Royal Sovereign 1489-1989*, edited by G P Dyer and published 25 years ago by the Royal Mint on the 500th Anniversary of the Sovereign. The various later guises of the denomination, diversely termed as "Pound", "Unite", "Laurel", and "Guinea", therefore did not fit the strict criteria for this collection. It is appropriate to note here that the Hemisphere Collection contains an example of the extremely rare 1819 currency Sovereign, that is the actual piece illustrated in this comprehensive book on the subject (see *The Royal Sovereign 1489-1989*, page 44).

Most significantly the Hemisphere Collection includes the King Edward VIII 1937 Proof Sovereign, a coin of the highest rarity. This fabled coin was never produced for currency issue, due to the abdication of the King, and consequently numismatic examples of his reign are very seldom encountered. The Prof R E Gibson Collection of Sovereigns, sold in 1984, contained this actual example of the coin, but the Gibson Collection did not include the hammered gold Sovereigns, or indeed the other exceptional rarity in the Hemisphere Collection, the 1953 gold Proof Sovereign of our current Queen, of which only a minuscule number have ever found their way into private hands. The recent Bentley Collection, sold by Baldwin's in 2012-2013, did not contain examples of either of these exceptional rarities. Though complete in its currency formation, there was a gap in the lack of any Edward VIII piece. The Hemisphere collection has no such absence in its unbroken line of monarchy.

A favourite coin in the collection is the earliest Sovereign the current owner could locate, an example of the King Henry VII Sovereign of the group IV classification with the reverse mintmark dragon. This mintmark was only used on the Sovereign denomination, and dates this coin to 1502-1504. It was purchased at auction in May 2005, just over 500 years after it saw the light of day.

The Hemisphere Collection has been cherished throughout its formation. The current owner has enjoyed the thrill of the chase in securing these coins, which culminated in a remarkable trip to Tokyo (Japan) in 2008 to repatriate the King Edward VIII Sovereign from a packed auction room in the Imperial Hotel. Following on from these numismatic adventures, the current owner has now decided it is the time to pass over the custodianship of these valuable coins to others in a more youthful phase of their collecting.

Ten years have passed since the major work of accruing this collection began and, with the recent dispersal of the Bentley Collection complete, it was deemed 2014 was an appropriate time to give a more recent generation of collectors the opportunity to bid in a public Baldwin auction for the content of the Hemisphere Collection of hammered and milled gold Sovereigns, and perhaps secure something that the Bentley Collection did not have.

Statistical Analysis

The Hemisphere Collection of Gold Sovereigns consists of 394 pieces in total, dating from the early 16th Century until 2013 and is herewith presented in 202 lots.

The earliest portion contains eight hammered gold Sovereigns dating from King Henry VII until King James I, a 140 year period with their reigns dating from 1485-1625.

The modern gold Sovereigns from the United Kingdom number 174 pieces which date from 1817 until 2013, including all the rare currency dates, with exceedingly rare proof examples of King Edward VIII and the 1953 Proof Sovereign of our current Queen.

The Hemisphere Collection of Gold Sovereigns contains 190 Sovereigns issued from the Australian branch mints of Sydney, Melbourne and Perth.

This quantity further breaks down to:

84 pieces from Sydney mint which produced dated currency Sovereigns from 1855 to 1926 inclusive.

73 pieces from the Melbourne mint which produced dated currency Sovereigns for most years from 1872 to 1931 inclusive.

33 pieces from the Perth mint which produced dated currency Sovereigns from 1899 to 1931 inclusive.

The Hemisphere Collection of Gold Sovereigns contains 22 Sovereigns from the other Colonial branch mints of Canada, India and South Africa.

This breaks down to ten pieces from the Ottawa mint, Canada, which produced dated Imperial Sovereigns for most years from 1908 to 1919 inclusive.

A single piece that was issued as a currency Imperial Sovereign from the Bombay mint, India.

Eleven pieces from the Pretoria mint, South Africa, which produced dated Imperial currency Sovereigns from 1923 to 1932 inclusive.

The Hemisphere Collection contains a total of 49 pattern or proof issue Sovereigns mostly of Queen Elizabeth II but this includes the 1953 of the highest rarity and the King Edward VIII Sovereign.

There is one lot that is not a coin: a contemporary note in the hand of Queen Victoria on the re-introduction of the St George and dragon reverse on the gold Sovereign dating from 1870.

Reign and Type Summary of The Collection

Coins from the Royal Mint (c.1500-present)

Hammered Gold

King Henry VII (1485-1509) – one Sovereign of Group IV

King Henry VIII (1509-1547) – one Sovereign of the third coinage, Southwark mint

King Edward VI (1547-1553) – three hammered gold Sovereigns

Queen Mary (1553-1554) – one hammered gold Sovereign dated 1553

Queen Elizabeth I (1558-1603) – one hammered gold Sovereign, mintmark escallop

King James I (1603-1625) – one hammered gold Sovereign, first coinage, first bust type

Milled Gold

King George III (1760-1820) – four Sovereigns, one of each date issued
King George IV (1820-1830) – thirteen Sovereigns
King William IV (1830-1837) – eight Sovereigns
Queen Victoria (1837-1901) – sixty-five Sovereigns
 Young Head Shield Reverse (1838-1874) – forty-one Sovereigns
 Young Head St George Reverse (1871-1885) – ten Sovereigns
 Jubilee Head (1887-1892) – six Sovereigns
 Old Head (1893-1901) - eight Sovereigns
King Edward VII (1901-1910) – nine Sovereigns
King George V (1910-1936) – nine Sovereigns
King Edward VIII (1936) – one Sovereign, the only example singly available to collectors
Queen Elizabeth II (1952-) – sixty-four Sovereigns, including the exceptional 1953 Proof

Coins from the Branch mint in Sydney, Australia (dated 1855-1926)

Queen Victoria (1837-1901) – sixty Sovereigns
 Sydney mint (1855-1870) – fifteen Sovereigns
 Young Head Shield Reverse (1871-1887) – fifteen Sovereigns
 Young Head St George Reverse (1871-1887) – fourteen Sovereigns
 Jubilee Head (1887-1893) – seven Sovereigns
 Old Head (1893-1901) - nine Sovereigns
King Edward VII (1901-1910) – nine Sovereigns
King George V (1910-1936) – fifteen Sovereigns

Coins from the Branch mint in Melbourne, Australia (dated 1872-1931)

Queen Victoria (1837-1901) – forty-four Sovereigns
 Young Head Shield Reverse (1871-1887) – ten Sovereigns
 Young Head St George Reverse (1871-1887) – sixteen Sovereigns
 Jubilee Head (1887-1893) – nine Sovereigns
 Old Head (1893-1901) - nine Sovereigns
King Edward VII (1901-1910) – nine Sovereigns
King George V (1910-1936) – twenty Sovereigns

Coins from the Branch mint in Perth, Australia (1899-1931)

Queen Victoria (1837-1901) – three Sovereigns
King Edward VII (1901-1910) – nine Sovereigns
King George V (1910-1936) – twenty One Sovereigns

Coins from the Branch mint in Ottawa, Canada (1908-1919)

King Edward VII (1901-1910) – three Sovereigns
King George V (1910-1936) – seven Sovereigns

One Coin from the Branch mint in Bombay, India (1918)

King George V (1910-1936) – one Sovereign

Coins from the Branch mint in Pretoria, South Africa (1923-1932)

King George V (1910-1936) – eleven Sovereigns

Hammered Gold Sovereigns

Early Gold Sovereigns

For an essay upon the early issue of Sovereigns and subsequent gold coinage of Great Britain please see the Bentley Collection Special Edition Catalogue, pages 7-10

Impressive Henry VII Gold Sovereign, 1502-1504



2001 † **Henry VII (1485-1509)**, Fine Gold Sovereign of Twenty Shillings, Group IV (c.1502-1504), crowned full robed figure of the King seated facing on ornate throne with high canopy, holding orb and sceptre, initial mark lis at start of legend, legend reads hENRICVSx xDEIx xGRAx REXx ANGLx ETx FRANx DNx HIB'N'xx, rev quartered shield of arms upon Tudor rose, surrounded by beaded and linear tressure of ten arcs, each cusp overlaid with alternating leaf and lis fleury device, beaded circle surrounding, initial mark dragon at top, legend reads xHESVSx xAVTEMx xTRANSIENSx xPERx xMEDIUMMx xILLORVMx xIBAT xx*xx, 15.40g (Potter and Winstanley type IV; Grierson class D; SCBI 23:79-80; Schneider 550; North 1692/1; S 2175). A little double struck in the obverse legend, with good detail in the design, one tiny black spot on the reverse inner circle, otherwise good very fine, an impressive example of the art of engraving in the Renaissance, very rare. £100,000-120,000

ex Christies, 26 February 1991, lot 572

ex Samuel King collection, Spink Auction, 5 May 2005, lot 21 and back cover illustration

The gold Sovereign was first introduced by King Henry VII, recorded in a commission dated 28 October 1489 to be struck at the Tower of London at a 20-Shilling face value; at a fineness of 23 carats and 3½ grains (0.995 fine gold); and 240 grains in weight (15.552g). The commission further stated that for every pound of gold struck into coin at the Tower, at least two coins had to be gold Sovereigns, which equated in face value terms to £2 in every £22 and 10-Shillings. The Hemisphere Collection coin was struck circa Michaelmas 1502 to Spring 1504, dated by the initial marks used, of which the dragon was reserved for use only upon the gold Sovereign.

Henry VIII Gold Sovereign with “Holbein” Style Portrait



2002 † **Henry VIII (1509-1547)**, Gold Sovereign of Twenty Shillings, Third Coinage, Southwark mint, crowned full figure of King seated facing on throne, holding orb and sceptre, rose below, inner and outer beaded circles and legend surrounding, mintmark S at start of legend both sides, legend reads S hENRIC xx8xx Dlx xGRAx xAGLx xFRANCIE xxZxx HIBERNxx REX, rev crowned quartered shield of arms with crowned lion and Griffin supporters, HR ligatured on lis topped banner below, inner and outer beaded circle and legend surrounding, legend reads S IhSx xAVTEMx xTRANSIENSx xPER MEDIVMx xILLORx xIBATx, 12.21g (Schneider 611; North 1825; S 2291). *Lightly creased with one small dig on the reverse, otherwise well struck on a broad flan with pleasing red tone and a decent portrait, very fine and rare.* £15,000-18,000

ex Spink Numismatic Circular, February 1973, item 1092

ex Property of a Lady, Spink Coin Auction 168, 15 April 2004, lot 147

One of the last Sovereigns issued in the reign of King Henry VIII, this example was issued from the Southwark mint in London between 1544 and 1547. The coin depicts an elderly King Henry in the “Holbein style” that students of history typically imagine. The Sovereign still valued at 20-Shillings face value, had been debased by King Henry at this time to only 20 carats of gold (0.833 fine) and a weight of 192 grains (12.441g).



2003 † **Edward VI (1547-1553)**, Gold Sovereign of Twenty Shillings, Second Period (24 January 1549 to 18 December 1550), Southwark mint, crowned full figure of boy King seated facing on tall throne with cherub ornaments, holding orb and sword, linear inner and outer beaded circles surrounding, initial mark Y at start of legend both sides, legend reads Y EDVVARD'. VI: D' G'. AGL': FRAN': ET: HIB': REX:, rose at end of legend, rev crown over quartered shield of arms supported by crowned lion to left, griffin to right, ER on large banner below, linear inner and beaded outer circle, legend reads Y IHS'. AVTEM. TRANSIENS: PER MEDI'. ILLOR': IBAT., 10.12g (Schneider 685; North 1906; S 2433). *Some evidence of tooling on the reverse by banner and smoothing on the obverse fields, giving some loss in overall weight, weakly struck at face, otherwise details clear, about very fine.*

£12,000-15,000

ex Clarendon collection, Part I, Bonhams, 28 March 2006, lot 916

This was the first of three types of gold Sovereign depicting the boy King Edward VI dating to 1550. This second period coinage was only issued once the King was satisfied that the coinage could be sustained at a higher fineness of gold than his Father's debased issues. Therefore this Sovereign was issued at 22 carat fineness (0.917 fine), which we still use for British gold coinage today, and a 20-Shilling face value, though it weighed only just over 169 grains (10.977g), as the country continued to recover from the extravagance of Henry VIII. This example emanates from the Southwark mint where Sir John Yorke was the Under-Treasurer, hence the use of his surname initial Y for the mintmark.

Edward VI Fine Gold Sovereign of the Rarest Initial Mark



2004 † Edward VI (1547-1553), Fine Gold Sovereign of Thirty Shillings, Third Period (15 December 1550 to 6 July 1553), Southwark mint, crowned full figure of King seated facing on ornate throne, holding orb and sceptre, portcullis below extending to rim, ornate throne back with large pillars, 22 arc tressure and beaded circle surrounding, pellets in arcs, trefoils on cusps, initial mark ostrich head (1 January - 30 June 1551) at start of legend both sides, legend reads EDVVARD'x VI'x Dx xGx ANGLIE FRANCIE xZx hIBERNIExx REXxx, rev quartered shield of arms upon Tudor rose, surrounded by beaded and linear tressure of ten arcs, each cusp overlaid with alternating leaf and lis fleury device, two saltires in each spandrel, legend reads ihESV'x AVTEMx xTRANSIENSx xPERx xMEDIVMx xILLORVMx xIBATxx, outer beaded circle surrounding, 15.04g (Schneider 701; North 1926; S 2446). Has been lightly tooled on the dexter side of the obverse field where a previous piercing has been obscured, overall lightly gilt with bright highlights and a pleasant red hue, the detail of the design is still very clear, very fine and of extreme rarity, fewer than ten known to be extant in private hands. £50,000-60,000

ex The late Richard Whitbourn of Godalming, Sothebys, 2 February 1869, lot 230, described as "mint mark dragon's head", "pierced", sold for £7 ex, rev Edward John Shepherd (died 1874), Sothebys, 22 July 1885, lot 227, where described as "of excessive rarity, very well preserved but unfortunately pierced", sold for £17/5/- to the dealer Verity

ex Evelyn W Rashleigh of Stoketon, Saltash, Cornwall, Sothebys, 21-28 June 1909, lot 811 and plate XII, where described as "fine and exceedingly rare. It has unfortunately been pierced, but is now repaired.", sold for £23

ex The late Dr R T Cassal of Abertillery, Glendinings, 3-4 December 1924, lot 269 and plate 2, sold for £48, no mention of repair

ex The late Augustus Thellusson of St Peter's, Broadstairs, Part 1, Glendinings, 19-20 October 1931, lot 43 and plate II, sold for £56 to Seaby

ex Christopher Corbally Browne of Bishop's Stortford, Herts, Sothebys, 25 March 1935, lot 252 and plate III, sold for £70

ex Spink Numismatic Circular, September 1979, item 7936, marked sold and not illustrated

ex "Continental Collector", Spink Auction 38, 10-11 October 1984, lot 6

ex The Sheffield Collection, Spink-Noble Auction 43, Australia, 17-18 November 1993, lot 2688

ex St James's Auction 1, 13 October 2004, lot 433

ex The Golden Horn Collection, Stack's, New York, 12 January 2009, lot 4040

ex St James's Auction 14, 30 September 2010, lot 22

This was the earlier and finer of two types of gold Sovereign issued in the third period of King Edward's reign dating to 1551. This Sovereign was issued at a 30-Shilling face value, 23 carat and 3½ grains fineness (0.995 fine gold), reverting back to the original fine standard, weighing in at 240 grains (15.552g). These fine Sovereigns were issued from the Southwark mint for only six months, where Sir Edmund Peckham was the Treasurer, hence the use of the "ostrich" head as a mintmark, thought to be a rebus upon his surname. The whole coinage of the ostrich head mintmark consisting of Double-Sovereign, Sovereign, Angel and Half-Angel totalled approximately £2,778 which was minuscule compared to the quantity of other gold coinage issued in this entire reign. This figure represented a mere ½% of total known gold output for the reign (see Schneider tables 12 and 13). In *The Tudor Coinage* (published 1978), page 105, Christopher Challis suggests that the issue was perhaps for the use of the King himself, as there is a record in King Edward's Chronicle (8 July, page 135) of the King carrying some of this issue in his progress.



2005 † Edward VI, Gold Sovereign of Twenty Shillings, Third Period (15 December 1550 to 6 July 1553), Southwark mint, crowned half-length armoured figure of King right, holding orb with sword on shoulder, linear and beaded circles surrounding, initial mark y at start of legend both sides, legend reads y :EDVVARD'. VI: D': G'. AGL': FRA'. Z: hIB': REX., outer beaded circle both sides, rev crown over quartered shield of arms supported by crowned lion to left, griffin to right, ER on large banner below, linear and beaded circles surrounding, legend reads y.lhs'. AVTE'. TRANCI'. PER: MEDIV'. ILLORV'. IBAT., 11.16g (Schneider 690; North 1927; S 2450). Struck with a pleasing portrait, small short scratch over the orb cross and once cleaned, otherwise very fine.

£15,000-18,000

ex Property of a Lady, Spink Auction 168, 15 April 2004, lot 150

It is interesting to read the footnote from this provenance, where it is speculated that mintmark Y for the third period Sovereign is five times rarer than mintmark tun which is more usually seen for this issue. According to Schneider the contemporary accounts of gold output for the end of this period are missing relating to the initial mark tun, so factual corroboration of this ratio cannot be gleaned for sure.

This was the last gold Sovereign issued in the reign of King Edward dating to 1551. This Sovereign was issued in "crown gold" at a 20-Shilling face value and 22 carat fineness (0.917 fine gold), which we still use for British gold coinage today. Weighing 174.6 grains (11.314g), this issue represented an improvement on the second period Sovereign and a further sign of the economic recovery of the coinage after the debasement in his father's reign. The Hemisphere Collection example emanates from the Southwark mint, again with the initial Y as its mintmark for Under-Treasurer, Sir John Yorke.



2006 † Mary (1553-1554), Fine Gold Sovereign of Thirty Shillings, Tower mint, dated 1553 in Roman numerals at end of obverse legend (issue period 20 August 1553 to 24 December 1554), mintmark pomegranate in legend both sides, crowned full figure of Queen seated facing on ornate throne, holding orb and sceptre, portcullis below extending to rim, ornate throne back with pellet sides to back and large side pillars, multi arc tressure and beaded circle surrounding, pellets in arcs, trefoils on cusps, mintmark pomegranate after Queen's name, annulet stops in legend, legend reads :MARIA:+: D': G': ANG'o FRA Z: hIB': REGINA: m:D:LIII, rev quartered shield of arms upon Tudor rose, surrounded by beaded and linear tressures of ten arcs, each cusp overlaid with alternating leaf and lis fleury device, legend reads A: DnO+ FACTV: EST: ISTV'o Z: EST: MIRA: IN: OCVL': nRIS': with pomegranate between O and F, outer linear circle surrounding, 15.14g (Schneider 704; North 1956; S 2488). Small short crack at centre of the obverse under sceptre hand and at upper left quarter of shield on the reverse, otherwise struck with a good portrait, toned, about very fine.

£12,000-15,000

ex Collection of a Southern Gentleman, Stacks, New York, 7 December 1994, lot 2446

ex St James's Auction 5, 27 September 2006, lot 276

Queen Mary issued all her gold coinage to the fine standard of 23 carats and 3½ grains (0.995 fine) and to the weight of 240 grains (15.552g) as originally set by her grandfather, King Henry VII. Mary's hammered gold Sovereigns are the only issue of this hammered gold coin denomination that carry an actual date, albeit in Roman numerals, either 1553 or 1554.



2007 † Elizabeth I (1558-1603), Fine Gold Sovereign of Thirty Shillings, Tower mint, Sixth Issue (1583-1600), crowned full figure of Queen seated facing on ornate throne, holding orb and sceptre, portcullis with pellet decoration below extending to rim, ornate throne back with annulet and pellet sides to back and large side pillars, multi arc tressure and beaded circle surrounding, pellets in arcs, trefoils on cusps, mintmark escallop (14 February 1585 to 30 May 1587) with single stop either side at end of legend, pellet stops in legend, legend reads ELIZABETH. D'. G'. ANG'. FRA'. ET. HIB'. REGINA., outer beaded circle surrounding, rev quartered shield of arms upon Tudor rose, surrounded by beaded and linear tressures of ten arcs, each cusp overlaid with alternating leaf and lis fleury device, beaded circle surrounding, legend reads A. DnO'. FACTV. EST. ISTVD. ET. EST. MIRAB. IN. OCVLIS. NRS', outer beaded circle surrounding, 15.20g (Schneider 781; North 2003; S 2529). Toolled where a crack has been filled and perhaps lightly gilt, weak at face with an even red tone, about very fine.

£8000-10,000

ex Heritage New York Signature Auction Sale 397, 9 January 2006, lot 13,466, in pre-crack repair state.

The previous occasion this coin appeared publicly for sale it demonstrated an open crack from rim to centre, up the right side of the portcullis on obverse and between the second S and T in the reverse legend to the lower right quarter of the shield. This crack has since been filled and obscured, and is only more evident on reverse as a "crease" in the fabric of the metal.

Queen Elizabeth reverted at the start of her reign to a dual system of gold coinage as per that of her brother Edward VI. Sovereigns, Ryals, Angels, Half-Angels and Quarter-Angels, were issued in fine gold at 23 carats and 3½ grain standard (0.995 fine), and crown gold at the 22 carat standard for the Half-Pounds, Crowns and Halfcrowns. The Hemisphere Collection Sovereign carries the escallop mintmark, produced in the fine gold only period, specifically from February 1585/6 to May 1587, for a total output of £56,562, which was divided amongst the five denominations (see Schneider table 14).

Pleasing James I Gold Sovereign, First Issue of The Reign



2008 † **James I (1603-1625)**, Gold Sovereign of Twenty Shillings, First Coinage (21 May 1603 to 10 November 1604), first crowned half-length armoured figure of King right, holding orb with sceptre on shoulder, beaded circles surrounding, initial mark thistle (21 May 1603 to 22 May 1604) at start of legend both sides, legend reads IACOBVS. D'. G'. ANG'. SCO'. FRAN'. ET. HIB'. REX., outer beaded circle both sides, rev crown over quartered shield of arms, now incorporating Arms of Scotland, I to left, R to right, beaded circle surrounding, legend reads .EXVRGAT. DEVS. DISSIPENTVR. INIMICI. 10.99g (Schneider vol II, 1; North 2066; S 2608). *Slight weakness to parts of legend and at sceptre forearm, one tiny short scratch in upper right obverse field, otherwise well-struck with a good face, toned, good very fine and rare.*

£18,000-22,000

ex Collection of a Southern Gentleman, Stacks, New York, 7 December 1994, lot 2448
ex Samuel King collection, Spink Auction 173, 5 May 2005, lot 55

King James I was also King James VI of Scotland, since his mother, Mary Queen of Scots, had abdicated in 1567, and was the first monarch to proclaim titles for both England and Scotland on the British coinage. The Hemisphere Collection example is the first issue and mintmark, with the first type of bust dating it to 1603 and was issued in 22 carat fineness (0.917 fine) as our gold Sovereigns continue to be today. This coinage marks the last time a Sovereign is called as such in the hammered gold series, and the name is not used again until the advent of the modern Sovereign for currency in the reign of George III in 1817. The 10-Shilling denomination then continues under other guises as the "Unite" "Laurel" and "Guinea."

Milled Gold Sovereigns

The modern machine made gold Sovereign is arguably the most successful gold coin denomination in the world, judging from the total numbers produced as of the 2013 production figures, and from the far reaching influence, acceptance and familiarity of the coin around the planet as a trade medium. The fact it was produced in Royal Branch Mints in six locations outside of the United Kingdom, across the Northern and Southern hemispheres, show how important a coin it was and why this collection is so appropriately named.

Still less than 200 years in production, the gold Sovereign has thus far resulted in a total output of over one billion gold Sovereigns – a rough calculation using some of the more modern unconfirmed figures from the Royal Mint to 2013 gives a total of 1,086,478,712 pieces and counting.

The Royal Mint for much of this time in London (1817-1969) accounts for 603,010,154 of this total, with the Branch mints giving 483,468,558 according to official figures.

The Hemisphere Collection pays homage to what is a very important piece of economic and social history.

George III Gold Sovereigns

For a narrative on the Sovereigns of George III, please see the Bentley Collection Special Edition Catalogue, pages 13-14



2009 G **George III (1817-1901)**, Gold Sovereign, 1817, first laureate head right, coarse hair, date below, legend GEORGIUS III D: G: BRITANNIAR: REX F: D:, no upper right serif to fifth I of legend, rev St George slaying dragon right with broken lance, groundline with BP incuse to left, all within horizontally ruled garter with buckle, W W P incuse on sides of buckle, garter motto HONI . SOIT . QUI . MAL . Y . PENSE ., no upper left serif to I of HONI, no upper serifs to SOIT, raised rim both sides (Bentley 938/-; Marsh 1; MCE 464; S 3785). *Surface marks and hairlines, obverse rim nick, otherwise good fine.* £500-700

Calendar year mintage 3,235,239

Rare 1818 Gold Sovereign with Ascending Colon



2010 G **George III**, Gold Sovereign, 1818, ascending colon variety in legend, first laureate head right, coarse hair, date below, GEORGIUS III D: G: BRITANNIAR: REX F: D:, raised rim both sides, rev St George slaying dragon right with broken lance (Bentley 384; Marsh 2A; MCE 465; S 3785A). *Surface marks and nicks, with hairlines and dig in reverse right field, otherwise bold very fine and rare.* £1200-1500

Calendar year mintage 2,347,230

The Extremely Rare 1819 London Mint Sovereign of George III



2011 ♂ George III, Gold Sovereign, 1819, by Benedetto Pistrucci, laureate head right, coarse hair, date below, descending colon after BRITANNIAR; legend GEORGIUS III D: G: BRITANNIAR: REX F: D:, rev struck with inverted die axis, St George slaying dragon right with broken lance, groundline with BP incuse to left, all within horizontally ruled garter with buckle, WWP incuse on sides of buckle, garter motto HONI . SOIT . QUI . MAL . Y . PENSE ., no upper left serif to I of HONI, raised rim both sides, edge milled (Bentley 941, example 8 this coin; Marsh 3 R6; MCE 466; S 3785; BDM, vol IV, p.601; Royal Sovereign, page 44, this coin illustrated). Lightly hairlined with a few tiny flecks, otherwise toned, fine to good fine and the key date to the entire London series of British Sovereigns produced by the Royal Mint, of highest rarity. £50,000-60,000

ex plate coin illustrated in *Royal Sovereign 1489-1989*, edited by G P Dyer, chapter 3 – the Modern Sovereign, by G P Dyer, page 44. This actual example of the 1819 Sovereign pictured in the *Royal Sovereign* was shown to the mint personnel via B A Seaby in June 1974, seemingly on behalf of a private individual on the Continent. This appears to be the first time this particular example has ever been offered for auction sale, it having changed ownership only privately since the 1974 appearance.

Calendar year mintage 3,574

The 1819 is one of the hardest dates to find, and this is one of only eight currency examples known. A full listing of the provenance, trailing seven of these currency pieces including that offered here, was traced in the Bentley Collection catalogue in May 2012, of which this was numbered as example eight. A purported “proof” 1819 Sovereign (WR 199) was also listed (as number seven) but this has not been recorded anywhere for sale since 1939, and is effectively lost to a generation. The Bentley Collection Catalogue is worth consulting for many relevant facts about this the rarest London issue.

One other fresh example of an 1819 Sovereign has emerged since the Bentley sales, which sold in the London trade privately last October. It appears to be of a similar grade to this, but peppered with many surface digs and marks both sides.

It is worth re-emphasising here the reason for the rarity of 1819 Sovereigns, which was due mainly to the very low calendar year mintage. This was because specie payments by the Bank of England were suspended at that time, resulting in only £3574 worth of sovereigns being produced in that calendar year. It was only once restrictions on payment of gold were removed by the Bank of England from 1820-1823 that the Sovereign then became more firmly established with the public, and took over as the payment medium of choice from banknotes.

Further work in collaboration with the Royal Mint when the Bentley Collection was sold revealed some more interesting factual evidence about the issue of 1819 Sovereigns, also worth repeating here. 3574 were struck, a very small total that could easily have been produced in one “journey” at the mint (one day of striking). However, unusually, the records show this total was struck over five instalments from August to November 1819 and not from gold supplied by the Bank of England in the normal way. The gold to strike the 1819 Sovereigns all emanated from private sources, most likely firms in the City of London, in particular one called “Haldimand and Co.” converting gold into current coin, perhaps to pay suppliers or Director’s salaries. We know the coins did circulate in commerce, not just on the evidence of the worn coins seen today, but also other contemporary evidence from surveys of coinage conducted in 1829 and 1882.

In 1829 the mint, in collaboration with the Bank of England, conducted a survey of the gold Sovereigns in circulation to investigate how much silver was alloyed with the gold. The mint asked the Bank of England to locate 100 examples of each date of the Sovereign then in circulation from 1817 onward. The Bank managed to locate all that was asked from its reserves, except for the date of 1819, of which it could only find two circulated examples in its holdings, only ten years after issue. As a consequence these two examples were excluded from the alloy melting experiment.

Further evidence of circulation was provided by another survey carried out by a private banker named Martin in 1882. He conducted a huge survey of some 105,000 Sovereigns then in circulation to see how they were faring as regards condition and weight of the coin, all in an effort to have earlier worn coin withdrawn from circulation. This subsequently happened when pre-1838 dated Sovereigns were made non-legal tender. Mr Martin sourced details on dates and weights of Sovereigns nationally from banks, post-offices, railway stations and anywhere else gold sovereigns were transacted, perhaps 100 pieces or more were surveyed by clerks from each source. Of the 105,000 Sovereigns surveyed only two pieces were reported dated 1819, only 63 years after their issue.

The population of known coins has not grown much in the interim with only eight currency coins known, as of the date of the Hemisphere Collection auction, giving another rare opportunity to obtain one of the better surviving examples; perhaps the third finest in quality after the Bentley coin, which sold for £186,000 in May 2013.



2012 G George III, Gold Sovereign, 1820, closed 2, neater smaller date arrangement, second laureate head right, finer engraved hair, date below, 8 and closed 2 spaced apart, ascending colon in legend, only a trace of outer linear circle, rev St George slaying dragon right with broken lance, most letter I's with missing serifs in legend (Bentley 8; Marsh 4; MCE 466; S 3785C). With a very weak rim, surface marks and hairlines, some old sellotape deposit on bust, otherwise good fine.

£500-700

Calendar year mintage 931,994

Total calendar year mintage for the reign of George III = 6,518,037 pieces

George III died 29 January 1820

George IV Gold Sovereigns

For a narrative on the Sovereigns of George IV, please see the Bentley Collection Special Edition Catalogue, page 31



2013 G George IV, Gold Sovereign, 1821, first laureate head left, B.P. below, legend surrounding reads GEORGII IIII D: G: BRITANNIAR: REX F: D:, rev St George slaying dragon right with sword, date in exergue, B.P. to upper right (Bentley 4; Marsh 5; MCE 471; S 3800). Some surface marks and a myriad of hairlines in the fields and upon design, some light nicks and marks around chin and under truncation, scratch on the reverse below cape across sword forearm and scuff by head of the horse, otherwise about extremely fine.

£1000-1200

Calendar year mintage 9,405,114

Looking at this calendar year total if we allow for Marsh's estimate of 1,170,000 of these being 1820 dated coins of George III then we must reduce this total to 8,235,114.

It is interesting to note that the first type Sovereign of King George IV are the only sovereigns ever issued with decorative style lettering with "hatched" compartments.



2014 G George IV, Gold Sovereign, 1822, first laureate head left, rev St George slaying dragon right with sword, date in exergue, no serif to 1 of date (Bentley 13/950; Marsh 6; MCE 472; S 3800). Heavily hairlined with surface marks and dig to right of date, otherwise polished, good very fine.

£700-900

Calendar year mintage 5,356,787

The Extremely Rare 1823 Currency Sovereign of King George IV



2015 *g* **George IV**, Gold Sovereign, 1823, first laureate head left, rev St George slaying dragon right with sword, date in exergue, weak upper serif on the 1, date figures slightly misaligned (Bentley 14; Marsh 7 R3; MCE 473; S 3800). A myriad of heavy surface marks with some scuffs in the fields and upon design, short scratch by throat, otherwise toned, very fine and very rare. £2500-3000

Calendar year mintage 616,770

One of the rarest dates in the currency series of George IV, the 1823 Sovereign is perhaps the second rarest date of the reign after 1828 due to a low calendar year mintage.



2016 *g* **George IV**, Gold Sovereign, 1824, first laureate head left, rev St George slaying dragon right with sword, date in exergue, no upper serif on 1 in date (Bentley 15; Marsh 8; MCE 474; S 3800). A myriad of heavy surface marks and nicks both sides, light scratch above cape behind head of St George, polished, otherwise almost very fine, the reverse better. £600-800

Calendar year mintage 3,767,904

The Very Rare Currency First Type Sovereign of 1825



2017 G George IV, Gold Sovereign, 1825, engraved by Benedetto Pistrucci, first laureate head left, B.P. below, lettering with horizontally ruled interior compartments, legend reads GEORGIUS III D: G: BRITANNIAR: REX F: D:, milled border between linear concentric circles both sides, rev St George slaying dragon right with sword, broken lance on ground to left, light die flaw from tail to lance, WWP in relief below, date in exergue, no serif on the 1 in date, B.P. to upper right (Bentley 952; Marsh 9 R3; MCE 475; S 3800). *Some light digs by forehead and other surface marks, light short scratch in front of throat and one at top of head, vertical scratch to left of date and reverse rim bruise, otherwise good fine to about very fine and extremely rare.* £1500-1800

Calendar year mintage 4,200,343

One of the rarest dates in the currency series of George IV, the 1825 Sovereign, first bust, first reverse type, is perhaps the third rarest date of the reign after 1828. For the year 1825 the bust and reverse type changes, this first type as we have here being phased out and therefore very rare.

The calendar year mintage figure unfortunately provides no split between these first and second types for this year, however it is well known that the first type for 1825 is very rare, and must have only been produced up to, or around Easter 1825, accounting for a small fraction of the mintage for this calendar year. It is interesting to note that the year of 1825 with the first type reverse, is the last year this design of St George slaying the dragon is used for 46 years until it is revived in 1871.

1825 Plain Edge Pattern with Seven Heart Semée in the Hanoverian Arms



2018 G George IV, Gold Pattern Sovereign, 1825, engraved by William Wyon after Francis Chantrey's model, second bare head left, date below, rosette either side, toothed border and raised rim both sides, legend reads GEORGIUS IV DEI GRATIA, rev struck with coin die axis, by Jean Baptiste Merlen, crowned quartered shield of arms, with the arms of Hanover as an escutcheon, seven hearts in semée of Hanoverian lion, upper left lis of frame around Scottish lion detached only, Irish arms with nine harp strings, legend reads BRITANNIARUM REX FID: DEF:, edge plain (Bentley 17; WR 235 R5; Montagu 929; Murdoch 382; Nobleman 137; DM 158; S 3801). *Light tone, some light surface marks and hairlines, otherwise a pleasing proof, practically as struck and extremely rare.* £7000-9000

ex Union Bank of Switzerland, gold and numismatics auction 51, 21 January 2001, lot 834

The plain edge 1825 seven heart semée pattern Sovereign, was first catalogued properly in the Bentley collection with its different reverse shield to the currency coin. The milled edge 1825 proof carries the usual eight hearts in the Hanoverian Arms like the currency pieces and is therefore likely struck later to the different plain edge piece above.

All the denominations issued for the current new coinage of the second type of George IV in 1825 were also produced to proof quality, no doubt to present to officials and very important persons and in addition included a pattern gold Five Pounds, Two Pounds and silver Crown that were not current this year. Additionally William Wyon himself would be able to supply proofs to whomever he pleased or to those who would commission him to do so. These rare proofs of 1825, were obviously in demand as they led directly to the sale of entire Proof Sets in cases from the next year of 1826. Proof Sets then began to be produced on a more regular basis for Coronations, Jubilees and new coinages.



2019 ♂ **George IV**, Gold Sovereign, 1825, second bare head left, date below, rev crowned quartered shield of arms, with the arms of Hanover as an escutcheon, eight hearts in semée of Hanoverian lion (Bentley 18; Marsh 10; MCE 476; S 3801). *Scuffed with light surface marks and hairlines, two digs at top of the obverse rim, light rim bruise on the reverse, otherwise about very fine.* £500-700

Calendar year mintage 4,200,343

The calendar year mintage figure unfortunately provides no split between the first and second types for this year, it is well known that the first type for 1825 is very rare, and must have only been produced up to, or around Easter 1825.

Rare 1826 Gold Proof Sovereign



2020 ♂ **George IV**, Gold Proof Sovereign, 1826, second bare head left, date below, rev inverted dies axis, crowned shield of arms, quartered with the arms of Hanover as an escutcheon, eight hearts in semée of Hanoverian lion (Bentley 392; WR 237; S 3801). *Some evidence of light finger-printing, once polished, otherwise good extremely fine.* £3500-4000

The 1826 proof Sovereign was one of the coins included in commemorative sets made to present to officials and very important persons and in addition included a pattern gold Five Pounds, Two Pounds and Half-Sovereign as well as the silver and copper denominations from Crown to Farthing. Additionally Pistrucci himself had the right to supply single proofs to whomever he pleased or to those who would commission him to do so. Proof Sets then began to be produced on a more regular basis for Coronations, Jubilees and new coinages.



2021 ♂ **George IV**, Gold Sovereign, 1826, second bare head left, date below, rev crowned shield of arms, quartered with the arms of Hanover as an escutcheon (Bentley 19; Marsh 11; MCE 477; S 3801). *Some light black striations on the obverse and hairlines both sides, otherwise extremely fine.* £1200-1500

Calendar year mintage 5,724,046

2022 ♂ **George IV**, Gold Sovereign, 1827, second bare head left, date below, rev crowned shield of arms, quartered with the arms of Hanover as an escutcheon (Bentley 20; Marsh 12; MCE 478; S 3801). *Small deposit on rim, hairlines both sides with some scuffs, otherwise about extremely fine.* £1200-1500

Calendar year mintage 2,266,629

Extremely Rare King George IV 1828 Currency Sovereign



2023 G George IV, Gold Sovereign, 1828, second bust with date below, legend surrounding reads .GEORGIUS IV DEI GRATIA., engraved by William Wyon after Francis Chantrey's model, rev second crowned shield reverse, quartered with the arms of Hanover as an escutcheon, legend surrounding reads BRITANNIARUM REX FID: DEF: engraved by Jean Baptiste Merlen (Bentley 21; Marsh 13 R4; MCE 479; S 3801). Once lightly cleaned with some light surface marks each side, otherwise extremely fine, an extremely rare date, finer than the Bentley example. £18,000-22,000

Calendar year mintage 386,182

The 1828 Sovereign is considered the key date for the reign of George IV, and is one of the hardest to find in the London series issued by the Royal Mint bar the even the rarer 1819 Sovereign of George III. The reason why the 1828 Sovereign is so rare is not widely known. To make a new dated die is an intensive and laborious process, in both time and cost, and considering the average longevity of a die, the mint considered itself very lucky at the dawn of 1828 when it found a number of 1827 obverse dies were still in perfectly good working order.

Therefore, rather than make new dies for 1828 immediately, it was decided to wait until the supply of 1827 dated dies dwindled. This did not finally occur until November of 1828 as it seems there was only a low demand for gold sovereigns this year. It was only in December that 1828 Sovereigns started to be minted and this probably did not last long into 1829, therefore the actual number made dated 1828 can be considered to be a fraction of the calendar year mintage quoted above, perhaps a mere twelfth as an educated estimate. It is surprising perhaps that the 1827 dies were simply not just overstruck to convert them to display 1828, but it seems that over-stamping dates was not common practice until the reign of Queen Victoria. Over-dates during this period are very few and far between in all denominations.



2024 G George IV, Gold Sovereign, 1829, second bare head left, date below, rev crowned shield of arms, quartered with the arms of Hanover as an escutcheon (Bentley 22; Marsh 14; MCE 480; S 3801). Cleaned with surface marks and hairlines, otherwise good fine. £600-800

Calendar year mintage 2,444,652



2025 G George IV, Gold Sovereign, 1830, second bare head left, date below, rev crowned shield of arms, quartered with the arms of Hanover as an escutcheon (Bentley 23; Marsh 15; MCE 481; S 3801). Scuffs and surface marks, scratch behind head, otherwise good fine. £500-700

Calendar year mintage 2,387,881

Total calendar year mintage of Sovereigns for the reign of George IV = 36,556,308 pieces
George IV died 26 June 1830

William IV Gold Sovereigns

For a narrative on the Sovereigns of William IV, please see the Bentley Collection Special Edition Catalogue, page 44

Extremely Rare William IV Pattern Sovereign, 1830



2026 ♂ William IV (1830-1837), Gold Pattern Sovereign, 1830, by William Wyon after Francis Chantrey's model, second bare head right with coarse hair and flat topped, deeply engraved ear, w.w. incuse fully on truncation, nose points to second I in BRITANNIAR, legend reads GULIELMUS IIII D: G: BRITANNIAR REX F: D:, finely toothed border and raised rim both sides, coarse bead like border teeth, *rev* struck with inverted die axis, by Jean Baptiste Merlen, crowned quartered shield of arms, with the arms of Hanover as an escutcheon, seven heart semée, Irish arms with eight harp strings, crown with 13 pearls on each arch and five pearls each side of vertical facing upright, inner crown band with nine jewels, legend reads ANNO 1830 below, finer taller border teeth, edge plain (Bentley 394; WR 260 R5; Montagu 1083; Murdoch 440 (part); Nobleman 203; DM 178; S 3829B). *Hairlined, reverse with one light rim abrasion, otherwise practically as struck and extremely rare.* £12,000-15,000

It is interesting to see that the second bust rendition was used for this initial pattern dating from the year of accession in 1830. Most current coins from 1831 carry the first bust, whilst the second bust in currency for 1831 is extremely rare, being more wholly adopted from 1832. Therefore the chronology does not follow in reality as their referencing suggests. The second bust turned out to be the most prolific in this reign being used consistently from 1832 till the end of the reign. Both busts must have been used concurrently at times but the only reason they can accurately be called first and second bust is based on when they were phased out rather than when they were first used.

William IV Proof Sovereign of the 1831 Coronation Year with Second Bust



2027 G **William IV, Gold Proof Sovereign, 1831**, by William Wyon after Francis Chantrey's model, second bare head right with coarse hair and flat topped, deeply engraved ear, w.w. incuse fully on truncation, nose points to second I in BRITANNIAR, rev struck with inverted die axis, by Jean Baptiste Merlen, crowned quartered shield of arms, with the arms of Hanover as an escutcheon, date below, finer taller border teeth, edge plain (Bentley 24; WR 261 R3; Montagu 1084; Murdoch 440 (part); Nobleman 205/6; DM 179; S 3829B). *Light fingerprint and small scratch to left of shield on the reverse, rim bruise on the obverse with a few small pinhead-sized digs on cheek, hairline scratch in the obverse field, otherwise good extremely fine and rare.* £3500-4500

ex Spink Auction 171, 15 November 2004, lot 132, coin illustrated on front cover

It is interesting to see that the second bust rendition was used for the proof coin as issued for the Coronation proof sets in 1831. The second bust turned out to be the most prolific in this reign, being used consistently from 1832 till the end of the reign. Both busts must have been used concurrently at times but the only reason they can accurately be called first and second bust is based on when they were phased out rather than when they were first used. For further reading, see an article by Harold Mountain in the Spink Numismatic Circular October 1984, page 255, *Two Kinds of William IV Sovereigns*.

The Coronation of William IV took place 8 September 1831 and all the denominations issued for the current new coinage for the Coronation year of William IV in 1831 were also produced to proof quality in Coronation proof sets. These undoubtedly were made to present to officials and very important persons, and in addition to current 1831 dated denominations included a proof gold Two Pounds and silver Crown, Halfcrown and Shilling that were not current that year. Additionally William Wyon himself would be able to supply proofs to whomever he pleased or to those who would commission him to do so. The 1831 Proof Set is generally accepted as the second Proof Set available from the Royal Mint.



2028 G **William IV, Gold Sovereign, 1831**, first bare head right with finer hair and round topped ear, nose points to second N in BRITANNIAR, w.w. incuse on truncation with indistinct stops, finer toothed border and raised rim both sides, rev crowned quartered shield of arms, with the arms of Hanover as an escutcheon, date below, edge milled (Bentley 25; Marsh 16 R2; MCE 489; S 3829). *Cleaned and hairlined, with reverse rim bruise, otherwise bold very fine.* £1500-2000

Calendar year mintage 598,547

Even though 1831 is the initial year of mintage for William IV it is also the lowest calendar output from the mint for this reign and the first bust if therefore very rare. This output is not even five times higher than the extremely rare Victorian 1841 issue. This coin demonstrates the other bust type for William IV with rounded ear and a different arrangement of legend in relation to bust. The design was called the first bust not because of when its use commenced, but rather because of when it was phased out and was in concurrent use with the second bust on coins dated 1831 and 1832.



2029 ♂ **William IV**, Gold Sovereign, 1832, second bare head right with coarse hair and flat topped, deeply engraved ear, w.w. fully incuse on truncation, nose points to second I in BRITANNIAR, coarse border teeth, rev crowned quartered shield of arms, with the arms of Hanover as an escutcheon, date below, finer border teeth (Bentley 28; Marsh 17; MCE 490; S 3829B). *Cleaned with surface marks and hairlines, slight obverse rim bruise, otherwise good fine.* £400-500

Calendar year mintage 3,737,065

2030 ♂ **William IV**, Gold Sovereign, 1833, second bare head right, w.w. incuse on truncation, rev crowned quartered shield of arms, with the arms of Hanover as an escutcheon, date below (Bentley 29; Marsh 18; MCE 491; S 3829B). *Cleaned with surface marks and hairlines, otherwise good fine and a rare date.* £600-800

Calendar year mintage 1,225,269



2031 ♂ **William IV**, Gold Sovereign, 1835, second bare head right, w.w. incuse on truncation, rev crowned quartered shield of arms, with the arms of Hanover as an escutcheon, date below (Bentley 30; Marsh 19 R; MCE 492; S 3829B). *A couple of nicks in the obverse field to rear of neck, otherwise extremely fine, a rare date.* £1500-1800

Calendar year mintage 723,441

This year represents the second lowest calendar year mintage for William IV.



2032 ♂ **William IV**, Gold Sovereign, 1836, second bare head right, w.w. incuse on truncation, rev crowned quartered shield of arms, with the arms of Hanover as an escutcheon, date below (Bentley 964; Marsh 20; MCE 493; S 3829B). *Slight scratch behind neck with dig in field, otherwise extremely fine.* £1400-1800

Calendar year mintage 1,714,349



2033 ♂ **William IV**, Gold Sovereign, 1837, second bare head right, w.w. incuse on truncation, rev crowned quartered shield of arms, with the arms of Hanover as an escutcheon, date below (Bentley 32; Marsh 21; MCE 494; S 3829B). *Once cleaned with light surface marks, otherwise bold very fine, a rare date.* £1500-1800

Calendar year mintage 1,172,984

Total calendar year mintage of Sovereigns for the reign of William IV = 9,171,655 pieces
William IV died 20 June 1837

The Victorian Young Head Series of Shield Reverse Sovereigns

For a narrative on the earliest issue of Victorian Sovereigns please see the Bentley Collection Special Edition Catalogue, page 53

The Extremely Rare Victoria Small Head Pattern Sovereign of 1837



2034 G **Victoria (1837-1901), Gold Pattern Sovereign, 1837**, engraved by William Wyon, small young head left, hair bound with plain double fillet, with raised line depicting edges of fillets, plain truncation ruled with fine lines, close spaced date below slightly double struck, rosette either side, fine toothed border and high raised rim both sides, legend reads VICTORIA DEI GRATIA, more widely spaced from 8 to 4 o'clock, rev struck with inverted die axis, engraved by Jean Baptiste Merlen, crowned quartered narrow shield of arms within laurel wreath tied with bow below shield, twelve pearls on each arch of crown, four pearls vertically arranged on central upright, nine pellets visible on ermine below jewel band, laurel wreath each side consists of 30 leaves per side and terminates in three leaves at top, six harp strings in Irish arms, left string emanates from back of female figure, emblems below, rose at centre, thistle to left, shamrock to right, small rosette either side, legend reads BRITANNIARUM REGINA FID: DEF:; edge plain (Bentley 397; WR 296 R5; Montagu 1566; Murdoch 499; DM 199). In PCGS holder graded PR64 DCAM, lightly hairlined, otherwise practically as struck, extremely rare. £14,000-18,000

For a narrative on the initial pattern and currency Sovereign of Victoria's reign see Bentley Collection Special Edition Catalogue, pages 53-57

This is considered to be the second obverse for the proposed pattern Sovereign for young Queen Victoria for which she granted William Wyon multiple portrait sittings. The head is of a small stature, though larger than the first proposal (see Bentley 33), with plain fillets the legend more widely spaced.



2035 G **Victoria, Gold Sovereign, 1838**, first young head left, fine hair bound with double fillet, ponytail terminates in single curved strand of hair, w.w. raised on truncation, date below, fine toothed border and raised rim both sides, legend reads VICTORIA DEI GRATIA, rev crowned shield of arms within laurel wreath tied with bow below shield, narrow crown arches not so acutely angled, each with eleven pearl adornment, five pearls vertically arranged on central upright, wreath of 24 leaves each side, each terminate with two leaves at top, seven harp strings in taller Irish arms, first left string from scroll at back of female figure, emblems below, small rosette either side, legend reads BRITANNIARUM REGINA FID: DEF:; edge milled (Bentley 36; Marsh 22 R; MCE 499; S 3852). Heavily scuffed and hairlined, otherwise good fine and scarce. £800-1000

Calendar year mintage 2,718,694

The Very Rare Victoria 1839 Currency Sovereign



2036 G Victoria, Gold Sovereign, 1839, first young head left, ponytail terminates in single curved strand of hair, date below, rev crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below (Bentley 400; Marsh 23; MCE 500; S 3852). Scuffed and hairlined, once cleaned, otherwise about very fine and very rare. £1200-1500

Calendar year mintage 503,695

Extremely Rare 1841 Sovereign with Unbarred A's in Legend



2037 G Victoria, Gold Sovereign, 1841, first young head left, date below, toothed border both sides, unbarred A's in GRATIA, rev crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel, emblems below (Bentley 970; Marsh 24 R3; MCE 501; S 3852). Hairlined, once cleaned and now lightly toned, reverse with slight rim bruise, otherwise good very fine / about extremely fine, extremely rare. £14,000-18,000

Calendar year mintage 124,054

There being no Sovereigns minted bearing the date 1840, the whole calendar year figure presumably represents 1841 dated coins only, though unspent 1839 dies may have continued at first but is unlikely due to the gap in production.

With a relatively low mintage, the 1841 Sovereign does not survive in any quantity, the supply of this date in the coin market has always been out-stripped by demand and examples in recent years for sale have been few and far between. When offered for sale by auction, the 1841 Sovereign has achieved higher and higher realisations recently, as was seen when a mint state example sold at Bonham's in December 2011 for £34,800.

Even though few coins exist there are two significant varieties, the full letter A's in the last word on the obverse and the unbarred A variety as we have here, only noted and published within the last decade.



2038 G Victoria, Gold Sovereign, 1842, open 2 in date, first young head left, ponytail terminates in single curved strand of hair, date below, rev crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below (Bentley 971; Marsh 25; MCE 502; S 3852). Hairlined and scuffed with surface marks, otherwise fine and very rare. £500-600

Calendar year mintage 4,865,375

The more significant variety of 1842 is the rarer open 2 type where the curve of the top of the 2 is not so rounded and shorter. The 4 in this date variety is also a taller and sharper topped figure than the normal 1842 date. Marsh does not list any of the varieties of 1842 in his publication as these have only been noted in the last decade.

The Extremely Rare “Narrow Shield” Sovereign of 1843



2039 G Victoria, Gold Sovereign, 1843, “narrow shield” variety, first young head left, with double fillet, ponytail terminates in single curved strand of hair, legend reads VICTORIA DEI GRATIA, engraved by William Wyon, date below, rev possibly engraved by Jean Baptiste Merlen, “narrow” crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath of different leaf arrangement, crown with more prominent and acutely angled arches, tied with bow below shield with smaller ribbon ends, twelve pearls on each arch of crown, four pearls vertically arranged on central upright, nine pellets visible on ermine below jewel band, wreath of 21 leaves each side, top of wreath each side terminates in three leaves, seven harp strings in Irish arms, left string emanates from back of female figure above lower scroll, narrower spaced taller emblems below, double shamrock head to right of large central rose, thistle to left, no rosettes, small hyphen either side, legend reads BRITANNIARUM REGINA FID: DEF: (Bentley 45; Marsh 26A R4; MCE 504; S 3852B). Scuffed with surface marks and hairlines, light reverse rim bruise, otherwise very fine, extremely rare. £6000-8000

ex “A Collection of Sovereigns,” St James’s Auction 7, 8 February 2008, lot 624, catalogued as “one of the finest known.”

The “narrow shield” variety of 1843 is an extreme rarity in the sovereign series and the Hemisphere Collection happens to contain two examples, this being the finest of the two.

The main differences between this variety and the “normal” shield reverse are really the leaf arrangement that consists of 21 leaves in each side of the wreath. The emblems below are quite different however and are much thicker and narrower with a hyphen each side rather than a rosette. The shamrock has two of its distinctive leaves rather than one, the central rose much larger and the thistle appears to have distant thistles beyond. Some of the leaves of the left hand wreath are not fully struck up or more faintly engraved. The shield is therefore not really the narrow part, it is the differing narrow emblems beneath that help the illusion that the shield is different.



2040 *g* Victoria, Gold Sovereign, 1843, first young head left, date below, rev crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below (Bentley 43; Marsh 26; MCE 503; S 3852). *Surface marks and scuffs, otherwise bold fine.* £250-350

Calendar year mintage 5,981,968, including the 1843 narrow shield variety

A Second Extremely Rare “Narrow Shield” Sovereign of 1843



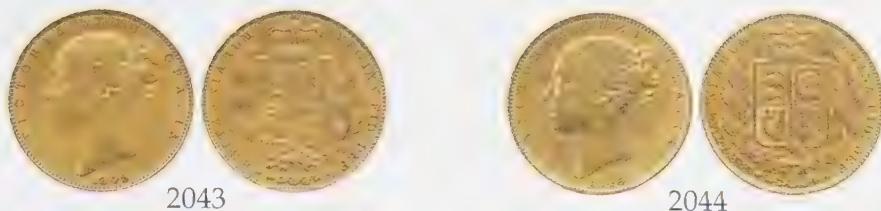
2041 *g* Victoria, Gold Sovereign, 1843, “narrow shield” variety, first young head left, legend reads VICTORIA DEI GRATIA, engraved by William Wyon, date below, rev possibly engraved by Jean Baptiste Merlen, “narrow” crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath of different leaf arrangement, crown with more prominent and acutely angled arches, tied with bow below shield with smaller ribbon ends, twelve pearls on each arch of crown, four pearls vertically arranged on central upright, nine pellets visible on ermine below jewel band, wreath of 21 leaves each side, top of wreath each side terminates in three leaves, seven harp strings in Irish arms, left string emanates from back of female figure above lower scroll, narrower spaced taller emblems below, double shamrock head to right of large central rose, thistle to left, no rosettes, small hyphen either side, legend reads BRITANNIARUM REGINA FID: DEF:, raised die flaw at the second N of legend (Bentley 45; Marsh 26A R4; MCE 504; S 3852B). *Scuffed with surface marks and hairlines, otherwise bold fine and extremely rare.* £4000-5000

See footnote to lot 2039 for a narrative about the elements of the extremely rare narrow shield design. This example appears to be a later striking than the other piece in this auction in that a raised die flaw has begun to appear at the second N in the reverse legend.



2042 *g* Victoria, Gold Sovereign, 1844, normal date, first young head left, date below, rev crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below (Bentley 974; Marsh 27; MCE 505; S 3852). *Surface marks and scuffs, scratch on neck, otherwise good fine.* £250-350

Calendar year mintage 3,000,445



2043

2044

2043 G Victoria, Gold Sovereign, 1845, smaller closer date in arc, first young head left, date below, bulbous 5, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below (Bentley 48; Marsh 28; MCE 506; S 3852). *Surface marks and scuffs, otherwise good fine, reverse better.* £250-300

Calendar year mintage 3,800,845

2044 G Victoria, Gold Sovereign, 1846, first young head left, date below, bulbous 6, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel, emblems below (Bentley 407; Marsh 29; MCE 507; S 3852). *Cleaned with surface marks and scuffs, bold fine.* £250-300

Calendar year mintage 3,802,947



2045 G Victoria, Gold Sovereign, 1847, first young head left, date below, doubled 1 in date, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below (Bentley 53; Marsh 30; MCE 508; S 3852). *Dig in front of neck, with other surface marks and hairlines, some residual red tone on the reverse, good fine.* £250-300

Calendar year mintage 4,667,126

The residual red tone is typically seen in Sovereigns that have come from sea salvage, and this piece is reminiscent of those that have come from the "Douro Cargo", familiar to this cataloguer, having also worked on cataloguing that auction sale back in 1996.



2046 G Victoria, Gold Sovereigns (2), 1848, 1849, crosslet 4 in date, second larger young head left, hair bound with double fillet, W.W. raised on truncation, legend surrounding, date below, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below (Bentley 411, 57; Marsh 31, 32 R; MCE 509, 510; S 3852C). *Both cleaned or polished with associated hairlines and surface marks both sides, these heavier on the first coin, otherwise fine and very fine. (2)* £450-550

Calendar year mintages 2,246,701 and 1,755,399 respectively



2047 G Victoria, Gold Sovereign, 1850, second larger young head left, date below, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below (Bentley 59; Marsh 33 R; MCE 511; S 3852C). *Some black deposit around parts of rim, surface marks and hairlines, about very fine.* £250-300

Calendar year mintage 1,402,039



2048 G Victoria, Gold Sovereigns (3), 1851, 1852, 1853, second larger young head left, W.W. raised on truncation, date below, rev crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below (Bentley 62, 63, 990; Marsh 34, 35, 36; MCE 512, 513, 514; S 3852C). First and last cleaned, all with surface marks and hairlines, second with many tiny digs on bust and field, otherwise generally about very fine, the second good fine. (3) £600-800

Calendar year mintages 4,013,624; 8,053,435; 10,597,993 respectively

29 October 1851 marks the day that William Wyon dies aged about 56 and still in the post of Chief Engraver. His son Leonard C Wyon succeeds him. Leonard's cousin James Wyon becomes resident engraver at this time too – he being later called upon to design the first portrait of the Queen at the Sydney mint in Australia.

The calendar year output for 1853 represents the highest mintage in over 30 years at this point in time, and is the highest mintage for the modern milled sovereign since its inception in 1817. The date is therefore rife with variety not only with aspects like the w.w. on the neck, but also in the date, and rarely in the legend. The variety depicted here is considered the normal type encountered for 1853 with the raised w.w. in relief on the truncation of the neck.



2049 G Victoria, Gold Sovereigns (3), 1854, 1855, 1856, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, rev crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below (Bentley 71, 73, 75; Marsh 37, 38, 39; MCE 515, 516, 517; S 3852D). First and last cleaned, all with surface marks and hairlines, otherwise generally good fine, reverses slightly better on first and last. (3) £600-800

Calendar year mintages 3,589,611; 8,448,482; 4,806,160 respectively

The ww incuse variety for both 1854 and 1855 are what is usually encountered for these dates.



2050 G Victoria, Gold Sovereigns (2), 1857, spread date figures, 1858, smaller date figures, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, weak bars to A's in legend of second, rev crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below (Bentley 77, cf 79; Marsh 40, 41; MCE 518, 519; S 3852D). Both cleaned and with surface marks and hairlines, the second with scratch on cheek, otherwise about very fine and good fine. (2) £400-500

Calendar year mintages 4,495,748 and 803,234 respectively

The 1858 mintage is a dramatically lower calendar year mintage figure than previous years, in fact the fourth lowest for the Victoria shield London series, and only seven times higher than the 1841 output. The 1858 Sovereign could be considered rare but does seem to be readily available. This is either because of a high survival rate as perhaps a quantity of the issue was hoarded, coming to the market-place many years later, or some of the 1859 output was dated 1858. However the 1859 output is not that high either being not even double that of 1858. The hoarding theory is most likely.



2051 G Victoria, Gold Sovereign, 1859, complete 5 smaller date, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, weak bars to A's in legend, rev crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below (cf Bentley 80; Marsh 42; MCE 520; S 3852D). Surface marks and hairlines, otherwise about very fine, not present in Bentley with a complete 5 figure in date. £250-350

Calendar year mintage 1,547,603, includes the Ansell variety. If you subtract the number of Ansell Sovereigns from this figure the result is 1,380,064 pieces.

The 1859 “Ansell” Variety Sovereign



2052 G Victoria, Gold “Ansell” Sovereign, 1859, second larger young head left with extra line depicted on lower fillet of hair, indicating struck from Australian “brittle” gold, *ww incuse* on truncation without stops, date below, incomplete dis-jointed 5, light raised die flaw down neck, further flaw at last A of legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below (Bentley 426; Marsh 42A R4; MCE 520; S 3852E). *Light surface marks, dig by nose, very fine / good very fine and rare.* £1800-2200

“Ansell” variety mintage 167,539 of a total calendar year of 1,547,603

In 1859 this quantity of coin from the regular mintage was found to be of inferior “brittle” quality and on melting found to have been alloyed with quantities of antimony, arsenic and lead. Mr George Frederick Ansell employed in the Rolling Room at the mint and with a scientific background, was given permission to experiment with this inferior batch of Sovereigns. He was successful in adjusting the alloy mix to reproduce them in a much stronger form resulting in the whole quantity being re-coined and denoted with the extra line in the hair fillet. Today they are very rare indeed, especially when encountered in very fine or better grade.



2053 G Victoria, Gold Sovereigns (2), 1860, 1861, both with curvy rounded 6 in date with bulbous top, second larger young head left, *ww incuse* on truncation without stops, date below, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below (Bentley 1004, 87; Marsh 43, 44; MCE 521, 522; S 3852D). *Both cleaned with surface marks and hairlines, otherwise good fine and about very fine. (2)* £400-500

Calendar year mintages 2,555,958 and 7,624,736 respectively

1860 marks the year that James Wyon retires as resident engraver at the mint and is succeeded by his son, George Wyon.



2054 G Victoria, Gold Sovereigns (2), 1862, 1863, both with hooked type closed 6 in date, second larger young head left, *ww incuse* on truncation without stops, date below, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below (Bentley 433, 96; Marsh 45, 46; MCE 523, 524; S 3852D). *First cleaned, second toned, both with surface marks and hairlines, about very fine and very fine. (2)* £400-500

Calendar year mintages 7,836,413 and 5,921,669 respectively

These Sovereigns of 1862 and 1863 feature the sharper “hooked” 6 which begins to make an appearance from this date onwards into the die number series. The more curvy, bulb type 6 is still more prevalent for the 1860 decade as a whole, but this hooked 6 seems to appear toward the end of the 1862 production run and goes as far as die number 7 consecutively and then die number 9 for 1863 once the die number series commences. The sharp 6 then does not make another appearance until die number 15 of 1864 and then appears sporadically until die number 30 of that year, rendering the hooked 6 a bit of a rarity.

The Extremely Rare 827 on Truncation 1863 Sovereign, Die Number 22 Reverse



2055 *g* **Victoria, Gold Sovereign, 1863**, numbers "827" struck in relief on truncation meets field, second larger young head left, date below, sharper more hooked incomplete 6, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath tied with bow below shield, die number 22 in relief below, the second 2 weaker than first, emblems below (Bentley 106; Marsh 48A R5; MCE 524; S 3853A). *In NGC holder graded AU50, scuffed with light surface marks and hairlines, otherwise about very fine, reverse better, extremely rare.* £6000-8000

This intriguing variety first came to light in 1954 when an 827 numbered truncation with die number 22 reverse appeared in the Hatton Hoard of gold found in Derbyshire. This initial coin ended up in the British Museum Collection.

The 827 is thought to refer to a certain ingot of gold, as in 1863 another batch of brittle gold arrived for coining in the form of ingots numbered from 816 to 830. The "827" Sovereign coupled with the die number 22 reverse is the so-called second variety as it is thought that this die numbered "827" Sovereign was produced and struck from a second batch of re-melted "scissel" and scrap emanating from the Rothschild brittle ingots delivered to the mint around November to December 1863.

For further reading about the 827 Sovereigns see Spink Numismatic Circular, October 1977, p.421, article by G P Dyer.



2056 *g* **Victoria, Gold Sovereigns (3), 1864, die number 58, 1865, die number 9, 1866, die number 25**, second larger young head left, *ww incuse* on truncation without stops, date below, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number below, emblems below (Bentley 1041, 1059, 1075; Marsh 49, 50, 51; MCE 525, 526, 527; S 3853). *All once cleaned with associated surface marks and hairlines, the last with some light deposits, otherwise generally good fine to about very fine.* (3) £600-800

Calendar year mintages 8,656,352; 1,450,238; 4,047,288 respectively



2057 *g* **Victoria, Gold Sovereigns (2), 1868, die number 21, die figure 1 with no upper serif, 1869, die number 39**, second larger young head left, *ww incuse* on truncation without stops, date below, crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number below, emblems below (Bentley 1100, 204; Marsh 52, 53; MCE 528, 529; S 3853). *Both once cleaned with associated surface marks and hairlines, otherwise generally good fine to about very fine.* (2) £400-500

Calendar year mintages 1,653,384 and 6,441,322 respectively



2058 G Victoria, Gold Sovereigns (3), 1870, die number 89, 1871, die number 78, 1872, die number 2, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, rev crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number below, emblems below (Bentley 547, 573, 578; Marsh 54, 55, 56; MCE 530, 531, 533; S 3853B). First once cleaned, all with surface marks and hairlines and some scuffing, otherwise generally about very fine to very fine. (3)

£600-800

Calendar year mintages 2,189,960; 8,767,250; 13,486,708 respectively

With large mintage output in 1872 it would be more than 35 years before this total in one calendar year was surpassed.



2059 G Victoria, Gold Sovereign, 1873, die number 14, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, rev crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 14 below, smaller 4 than 1, emblems below (Bentley 618; Marsh 57; MCE 535; S 3853B). Once cleaned with hairlines and some surface marks, otherwise good very fine.

£300-400

Calendar year mintage 2,368,215

Extremely Rare 1874 London Shield Reverse Sovereign Die Number 32



2060 G Victoria, Gold Sovereign, 1874, die number 32, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, rev crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 32 below, 2 slightly larger than 3, emblems below (Bentley 301; Marsh 58; MCE 537; S 3853B). Light hairline scratch to lower right side of obverse field, otherwise good very fine to almost extremely fine and extremely rare, the last issue of the London shield die number series.

£6000-8000

Calendar year mintage 520,713

There were also 1874 dated St George and Dragon reverse coins included in the output figure of just over half a million Sovereigns. This suggests very good die longevity indeed but most were likely the St George reverse in reality as the shield reverse of this date is very elusive, being the last date for the London shield reverse Sovereign.

The London shield Sovereign was issued concurrently with the reintroduction of the familiar St George and dragon reverse from 1871-1874 at which point the St George reverse became the more dominant type, rendering the last shield Sovereign date a major rarity.

Extremely Rare Proof 1880 Sovereign with Shield Reverse and Plain Edge



2061 *G* Victoria, Gold Pattern Sovereign, 1880, engraved after William Wyon, third young head left, with double fillet, w.w. in relief on truncation, rounded tip to truncation, date below, toothed border and raised rim both sides, VICTORIA DEI GRATIA, rev struck with en médaille die axis, engraved after Jean Baptiste Merlen, crowned shield of arms within laurel wreath tied with bow below shield, seven harp strings in Irish arms, left string emanates from scroll, emblems below, small rosette either side, BRITANNIARUM REGINA FID: DEF:, edge plain (Bentley 1212; WR 323 R5; Murdoch 513; Nobleman 273; DM 213). In NGC holder graded PF65 Ultra Cameo, a few light hairlines only, otherwise brilliant as struck, extremely rare. £20,000-25,000

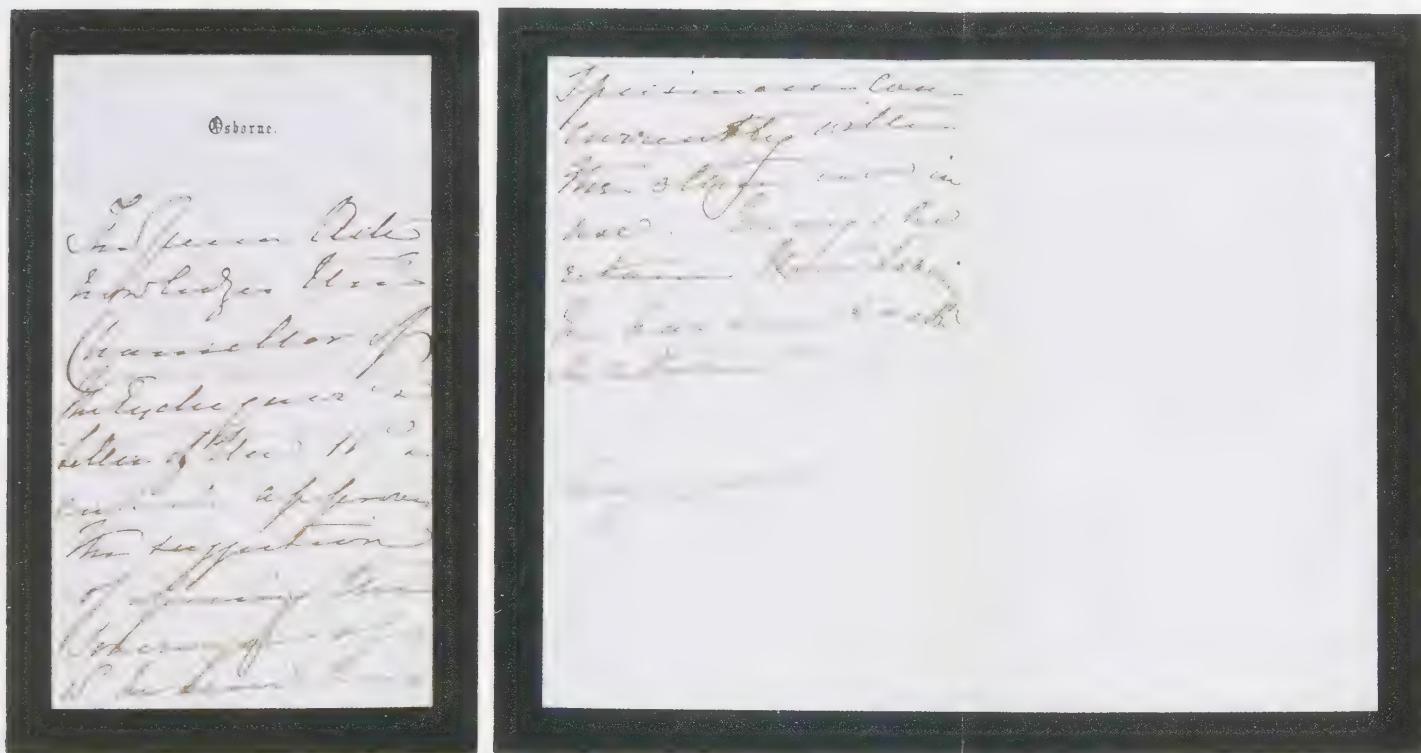
ex Dr Jacob Y Terner Collection, Ira and Larry Goldberg Auction 20, 26 May 2003, lot 375
ex Millennia Collection, Catalogue II, Ira and Larry Goldberg Auction 46, 26 May 2008, lot 459
ex St James's Auction 10, 6 November 2008, lot 559

This coin could possibly have been struck for display at the Melbourne International Exhibition in 1881, Australia. The Deputy Master of the Melbourne mint, Mr V Delves Broughton, seemingly approached the mint in London some time in 1880 requesting examples of coins and medals to be produced for display at the International Exhibition in Melbourne. Mr C W Fremantle the Comptroller at the Royal Mint agreed to prepare two proof examples of each of the current coins of 1880 and earlier dates, which were struck in such quantity that when prepared for shipment weighed 2cwt. and 19lb. The Museum of Victoria in Australia still retains one of the 1880 "Imperial Proof Sets" the other was seemingly traded after the exhibition for a collection of ancient coins. For further reading on the subject of special strikings made by the mint for exhibition in Australia see the Journal of the Numismatic Association of Australia, volume 2, article by John Sharples, *The Numismatic Collection of the Museum of Victoria*, available online at the Association website.

Victorian Young Head St. George Reverse Sovereigns

For an article on the revival of the St George reverse, please see the Bentley Collection Special Edition Catalogue, pages 276-277

An Important Contemporary Note in the hand of Queen Victoria Concerning the Revival of the St George and Dragon Reverse upon the Gold Sovereign



2062 *g* Victoria, hand-written unsigned note on embossed "Osborne" headed notepaper, 174mm x 113mm, with 11mm black border frame, dated August 14th 1870, to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, statesman Robert Lowe (1811-1892; Chancellor 1868-1873, later Viscount Sherbrooke from 1880) approving a design change to the sovereign and a wish to retain specimen coins. The letter reads:-

"The Queen ack-nowledges the Chancellor of the Exchequer's Letter of the 16th & entirely approves the suggestion of issuing the Sovereigns of which he sends her a specimen case - currently within the other coins in use. May she retain the tracing? He has received the returns?

Aug: 14.1870"

With one horizontal crease otherwise in very good condition.

£500-700

ex St James's Auction 4, 8 May 2006, lot 722 (part)

Supplied with a copy of a letter from the Royal Archives, dated 1 March 2007, where three letters including this were submitted for comparison to those in the Archive. The accompanying copy of the letter from the Assistant Archivist, confirms that this note offered herewith, appears to be in Queen Victoria's hand, and compares well with other unsigned notes the Queen wrote herself rather than dictating to a private secretary.

The content of the note shows approval for issuing the Sovereigns which led to the reintroduction and revival from 1871 of St George & the dragon of the same design as used for George IV 1821-1825. The "tracing" referred to must refer to some art work or drawings.

This note does make one wonder if the specimen coins seen by the Queen at this juncture included the unusual George III reverse design pattern (WR 313; Bentley 1211) of which there is only one recorded in private hands, or whether it was the more commonly encountered 1871 Proof Sovereign.



2063 *g* Victoria, Gold Sovereigns (3), 1871, 1872, 1873, engraved after William Wyon, young head left, ww buried in thin truncation in relief over trace of another ww, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim both sides, legend reads VICTORIA D: G: BRITANNIAR: REG: F: D:, rev engraved after Benedetto Pistrucci, St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with long tail, three strand end to tail, one spur of extra hair on curve of tail, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley 306, 307, 308; Marsh 84, 85, 86; MCE 532, 534, 536; S 3856A). Generally scuffed with surface marks and hairlines, the second more severe with evidence of cleaning and reverse rim abrasion, otherwise good fine, the others better, about very fine. (3) £550-650

Calendar year mintages 8,767,250; 13,486,708; 2,368,215 respectively

These Calendar outputs no doubt consist mainly of the shield reverse die number sovereigns. 1871 marks the first year for the revival of the St George and dragon reverse since last used for the Sovereigns dated 1825.



2064 *g* Victoria, Gold Sovereigns (3), 1874, 1876, 1878, young head left, ww buried in thin truncation in relief, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with long tail, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley 309, 310, 311; Marsh 87, 88, 89; MCE 538, 539, 540; S 3856A). Generally scuffed with surface marks and hairlines, the first two cleaned with rim nicks, second with rim bruise on reverse, otherwise generally good fine, last very fine. (3) £550-650

Calendar year mintages 520,713; 3,318,866; 1,091,275 respectively

The 1874 Calendar output is very low, and is only marginally more than that of 1839. There was no issue of London mint Sovereigns in either 1875 or 1877.

The Extremely Rare Victoria 1879 London St George Reverse Sovereign



2065 *g* Victoria, Gold Sovereign, 1879, by William Wyon, young head left, ponytail complete, ww buried in thin truncation in relief, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, hem of cloak doubled, horse with long tail, three strand end to tail, one spur of extra hair on curve of tail, dragon with four claws to left and three to right arm, one detached, date in exergue, date double struck, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley 312; Marsh 90 R4; MCE 541; S 3856A). Cleaned, scuffed with surface marks and hairlines, otherwise good fine and very rare. £500-700

Calendar year mintage 20,013

This incredibly low mintage for the calendar year is perhaps indicative of how rare the 1879 Sovereign really is. This is one sixth of the 1841 output and only six times higher than in 1819. 1879 marks the year where Resident Engraver T J Minton dies and this post is then abolished.



2066 *g* Victoria, Gold Sovereigns (3), 1880, 1884, 1885, young head left, 1880 with WW buried in thin truncation in relief, others with WW complete, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with short tail, three strand end to tail, last piece with dragon with three claws to left and four to right arm, others with one less claw to right arm, date in exergue, tiny indistinct BP to upper right (Bentley 314, 317, 319; Marsh 91, 92, 93; MCE 542, 544, 545; S 3856B, 3856F). Last two once cleaned, all with surface marks and hairlines, first with hairline scratch on neck and reverse rim nicks, last with one obverse and one reverse rim nick, otherwise generally good fine. (3) £550-650

Calendar year mintages 3,650,080; 1,769,635; 717,723 respectively

There were no dated Sovereigns from the London Royal Mint for 1881, 1882 or 1883. The total calendar year output for the whole London young head issues both shield and St George reverse = 165,312,976 pieces.

Victoria Jubilee Type Sovereigns

For a narrative of this issue from 1887-1892 at London, please see the Bentley Collection Special Edition Catalogue, page 291



2067 *g* Victoria, Gold Sovereign, 1887, tiny initials on truncation, engraved by Joseph Edgar Boehm, Jubilee veiled bust left, top cross on crown meets border, tiny J.E.B. initials fully on truncation with stops in straight line, slightly off-set from mid-point of large truncation, hooked type J, first type legend further from crown, VICTORIA D:G: BRITT: REG: F: D:; rev St George slaying dragon with sword, with helmet streamer, hemline of cloak incomplete, horse with short tail, broken lance on groundline to left, WWP in relief under lance, date in exergue, tiny BP without final stop (Bentley 324; Marsh 125A; MCE 547; S 3866A). Some surface marks and nicks, otherwise pleasing extremely fine and extremely rare. £800-1000

Calendar year mintage 1,111,280

The small curved initials with hooked J on the truncation are extremely rare. Further study since the sale of the Bentley Collection has shown that this first legend variety additionally has a much larger truncated portion to the bust, than the second legend type with "angled" I.E.B. initials which are depicted on a smaller truncated portion of the bust. Only a small proportion of the calendar year output must have carried this hooked J obverse variety.



2068 *G* **Victoria, Gold Sovereigns (5), 1888, 1889, 1890, 1891, 1892, all with second legend, Jubilee veiled bust left, angled J in normal J.E.B., second repositioned legend closer to crown, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, with helmet streamer, horse with short tail, last two with long tail and full B.P., date in exergue, tiny B.P to upper right (Bentley 325, 326, 327, 332, 333; Marsh 126, 127, 128, 129, 130; MCE 548, 549, 550, 551, 552; S 3866B, 3866C). First cleaned, all with surface marks and hairlines, some scuffed, otherwise generally fine to good fine, the 1889 very fine. (5)**

£900-1100

Calendar year mintages 2,277,424; 7,257,455; 6,529,887; 6,329,476; 7,104,720 respectively
The total calendar year output for Jubilee bust Victoria London Mint Sovereigns = 31,110,242 pieces

Victoria Old Head Sovereigns

For a narrative on the last coinage of Queen Victoria, please see the Bentley Collection Special Edition Catalogue, page 300



2069 *G* **Victoria, Gold Sovereigns (4), 1893, 1894, 1895, 1896 narrower date, engraved by Thomas Brock, old veiled bust left, T.B. below, VICTORIA D:G: BRITT: REG: F: D: IND: IMP:, toothed border surrounding, rev struck en médaille, engraved after Benedetto Pistrucci, St George slaying dragon with sword, three strand streamer on helmet, horse with long tail, three strand end to tail, two spurs of extra hair on curve of tail, dragon with four claws on each arm, broken lance on groundline to left, WWP in relief under lance, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim (Bentley 337, 338, 339, 340; Marsh 145, 146, 147, 148; MCE 553, 554, 555, 556; S 3874). Second and last once cleaned, first with dig at centre of reverse and other tiny nicks, generally all scuffed with surface marks and hairlines, good fine to nearly very fine, the first very fine. (4)**

£700-900

Calendar year mintages 6,898,260; 3,782,611; 2,285,317; 3,334,065 respectively

Note the 1896 Sovereign has different treatment of the streamer on the helmet of St George and a narrow date figure arrangement. There are no London Sovereigns dated 1897.



2070 g Victoria, Gold Sovereigns (4), 1898, 1899, 1900, 1901, old veiled bust left, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, date in exergue (Bentley 341, 342, 343, 344; Marsh 149, 150, 151, 152; MCE 557, 558, 559, 560; S 3874). First two once cleaned, last with rim nicks, all with surface marks, scuffs and hairlines, otherwise generally good fine to very fine. (4) £700-900

Calendar year mintages 4,361,347; 7,515,978; 10,846,741; 1,578,948 respectively
This output for 1900 represents the zenith of the old head coinage of Victoria.

The year that Queen Victoria died, 22 January 1901, represents the lowest mintage of Sovereigns no doubt as work would have transferred to preparing new coinage of Edward VII for 1902. Even though the mintage is lower, the 1901 Sovereigns do survive, as many well-to-do people would have kept such coins as keepsakes of the late Queen.

The total calendar year output for older veiled bust Victoria London mint Sovereigns = 40,603,267 pieces.
The whole reign of Queen Victoria London mint totalled an output of 237,026,485 Sovereigns.

Edward VII Gold Sovereigns

For a narrative on the London issue of Sovereigns for King Edward VII, please see the Bentley Collection Special Edition Catalogue, page 303

The Matt Proof Sovereign of Edward VII 1902



2071 g Edward VII (1901-1910), Gold Matt Proof Sovereign, 1902, engraved by George William De Saulles, bare head facing right, des. below, toothed border and raised rim, EDWARDVS VII D: G: BRITT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, rev struck en médaille, engraved after Benedetto Pistrucci, St George slaying dragon with sword, cloak with complete hemline, three stand helmet streamer, horse with long tail, ending in three strands, with one spur higher up at curve, broken lance on groundline to left, WWP in relief under lance, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim (Bentley 345; WR 408; S 3969). Cleaned and burnished with associated hairlines, otherwise good extremely fine. £350-450

According to tables of mintages in Appendix One in *English Silver Coinage* (latest edition published by Seaby 1992), just over 15,000 matt proof sets of coinage were issued of one formation or the other in celebration of the Coronation 9 August 1902. Such sets included a matt proof gold Sovereign as presented here, and additional single coins may well have been available on request too, so the final mintage figure could be circa 15,500 struck.



2072 *G* **Edward VII**, Gold Sovereigns (4), 1903, 1904, 1905, 1906, bare head facing right, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, date in exergue (Bentley 347, 348, 350, 351; Marsh 175, 176, 177, 178; MCE 622, 623, 624, 625; S3969). First extremely fine with some light surface marks, the second with heavy surface marks and hairlines, otherwise about very fine, the third with red tone, a few nicks and light surface marks, otherwise very fine, the last scuffed with surface marks and nicks, about very fine, reverse better. (4) £700-900

Calendar year mintages 8,888,627; 10,041,369; 5,910,403; 10,466,981 respectively



2073 *G* **Edward VII**, Gold Sovereigns (4), 1907, 1908, 1909, 1910, bare head facing right, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, date in exergue (Bentley 352, 353, 354, 355; Marsh 179, 180, 181, 182; MCE 626, 627, 628, 629; S 3969). Generally all with surface marks and hairlines, heavier on the last two which are both about very fine, the first two generally very fine. (4) £700-900

Calendar year mintages 18,458,663; 11,729,006; 12,157,099; 22,379,624 respectively

1907 represents the highest output from the mint of gold Sovereigns for 35 years being nearly five million higher than 1872s record mintage. This was shortly trumped by the massive output of 1910, but higher figures were still to come in the reign of George V. The whole reign of King Edward VII London mint totalled an output of 104,769,568 Sovereigns.
King Edward VII died 6 May 1910

George V Gold Sovereigns

For a narrative on the London issue of Sovereigns for King George V, please see the Bentley Collection Special Edition Catalogue, page 306

The Proof Sovereign of King George V for 1911



2074 *G* **George V (1910-1936)**, Gold Proof Sovereign, 1911, designed by Edgar Bertram Mackennal, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, toothed border and raised rim, GEORGIVS V D: G: BRITT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, rev struck en médaille, engraved after Benedetto Pistrucci, St George slaying dragon with sword, helmet with three strand streamer, horse with long tail, broken lance on groundline to left, WWP in relief under lance, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim (Bentley 356; WR 416; S 3996). Some hairlines both sides, otherwise practically as struck. £600-800

According to tables of mintages in Appendix One in *English Silver Coinage* (latest edition published by Seaby 1992), 3764 proof sets were issued of one formation or the other, in celebration of the Coronation 22 June 1911, which included a proof gold Sovereign as presented here. Single coins may well have been available on request too, so the final figure could be circa 4000 struck. The reverse design continues from the reign of Edward VII still carrying the same outer border treatment as instigated in the reign of Queen Victoria.



2075 G George V, Gold Sovereigns (3), 1911, 1912, 1913, bare head left, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, date in exergue (Bentley 357, 358, 359; Marsh 213, 214, 215; MCE 639, 640, 641; S 3996). First with light surface marks, about extremely fine, the second cleaned with some nicks and hairlines, otherwise about extremely fine, the third with light surface marks, extremely fine. (3) £550-650

Calendar year mintages 30,044,105; 30,317,921; 24,539,672 respectively

More record breaking outputs for the mint in 1911 and 1912 respectively, with 1912 being the highest ever output of gold Sovereigns.



2076 G George V, Gold Sovereigns (3), 1914, 1915, 1925, bare head left, 1925 with B.M recut on truncation, note lack of last stop, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, raised die flaw in cloak and helmet streamer, date in exergue, 1925 with coarser milling on edge with higher rims (Bentley 360, 361, 364; Marsh 216, 217, 220; MCE 642, 643, 646; S 3996). First two with light surface marks and hairlines, extremely fine, the last with some bagmarks only, good extremely fine. (3) £550-650

Calendar year mintages 1914=11,501,117; 1915=20,295,280. Total output dated 1925 = 4,406,431 which breaks down as 1925=3,520,431; 1949=138,000; 1951=318,000; 1952=430,000.

Following the outbreak of WWI the Government issued Treasury banknotes to the value of Sovereigns and Half-Sovereigns which were convertible to gold on demand at the Bank of England. However the public were encouraged not to do this, as the gold was no doubt needed elsewhere for purchases of vital supplies from overseas.

The high mintage of 1915 marks the end of higher production of gold at the mint as Great Britain strengthened its reserves for payments under the duress of war. Most of the Sovereigns will not have been used by the public.

It is very interesting to note in the ten years from 1905 to 1915 mint output was at its highest ever, and this total ten year production was of a similar figure to the total of all the years of output from the Sovereign's inception in 1817 until the previous record production total in 1872, a full 55 years of mintage.

Later when collectors started to seek out the modern gold Sovereign just after WWII, the 1925 Sovereign was always a challenging coin to find as its issue was for Bank of England gold reserves only. This coupled with the Gold Standard Act of 1925 meant that the Treasury banknotes were no longer convertible to gold coin on demand, but the Bank was compelled to sell 400 ounce fine gold bars to any purchaser who asked for it at a price of £3/17/10½d per ounce in legal tender money.

The reissue of 1925 dated Sovereigns in the reign of George VI occurred because of a need for more coins in the gold reserve of the Bank of England, and totalled 886,000 pieces from 1949 to 1952, without any issued in 1950. George VI Sovereign dies could not be used as their Proclamation and issue was only as commemorative patterns with plain edges in 1937, and therefore not authorised for currency, hence the 1925 George V designs being used again. These later coins eventually started to find their way into the hands of collectors and any premium on 1925 dated coins as a great rarity was soon eradicated.

The 1925 Sovereign as we have here has a high rim and recut initials on the truncation. If an original 1925 Sovereign could be found we would expect it to have a less prominent rim and more shallow initials.



2077 *g* **George V, Gold Sovereign, 1916, bare head left, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, date in exergue** (Bentley 362; Marsh 218; MCE 644; S 3996). *A few surface marks and hairlines, otherwise good extremely fine and rare.* £400-500

Calendar year mintage 1,554,120

Two years into war and still over one million Sovereigns were produced for the reserves of the Bank of England. Most of the 1916 issue and nearly all of the following 1917 issue were exported to America in lieu of payments. These exported pieces were held probably at Fort Knox for many years until the USA passed the Gold Reserve Act at the time of the Great Depression in 1934 where all coin was converted to bars.

Most residual Sovereigns of earlier dates left in the Bank of England may not have survived long, as the Gold Standard Act of 1925 meant that the Treasury banknotes were no longer convertible to gold coin on demand. However the Bank was compelled to sell 400 ounce fine gold bars to any purchaser who asked for it at £3/17/10½d per ounce in legal tender money.

This meant each bar would sell for £1560 each, and there was a demand, as in 1929, and again in 1930 the Bank of England had to melt down a total of 91,350,000 Sovereigns from their stock, which no doubt included any 1916 or 1917 Sovereigns left and many other earlier dates or varieties. Seemingly each 400 ounce gold bar would account for at least 1,421 sovereigns on the basis of this weight alone.

The Extremely Rare George V 1917 London Mint Sovereign



2078 *g* **George V, Gold Sovereign, 1917, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop weak and smaller, toothed border and raised rim, GEORGIVS V D: G: BRITT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, rev struck en médaille, St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with long tail, broken lance on groundline to left, WWP in relief under lance, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim** (Bentley 363; Marsh 219; MCE 645; S 3996). *Some bagmarks, surface marks and hairlines, one small dig above snout of horse on the reverse, otherwise extremely fine and finer than the recent Bentley example, the rarest London mint Sovereign of the 20th Century.* £10,000-12,000

Calendar year mintage 1,014,714

Three years into war and still over one million Sovereigns were produced for the reserves of the Bank of England. Nearly all the 1917 issue were exported to America in lieu of payments and most were never seen by the public. They were held probably at Fort Knox for many years until the USA passed the Gold Reserve Act at the time of the Great Depression in 1934 where all coin was converted to bars. The scant few genuine survivors we have today, were those that ended up in overseas payment to other nations other than the USA, and before 1925 for the reasons set out in the previous lot.

The London mint totalled an output of 122,787,360 Sovereigns across a mere eight dates during the reign of George V. This was over 18 million more than were produced in London during the whole reign of Edward VII which was for nine different dates. King George V died 20 January 1936

The Edward VIII Gold Proof Sovereign Of Highest Rarity



2079 ^g Edward VIII (acceded 20 January, abdicated 10 December 1936, died 25 May 1972), Gold Proof Sovereign, 1937, bare head of King facing left, HP initials below for engraver Thomas Humphrey Paget, legend surrounding reads EDWARDVS VIII D: G: BR: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, finely toothed border within twin concentric circles and raised rim both sides, *rev* struck en médaille, St George with flowing cloak and helmet with streamer, slaying dragon with sword, broken lance on ground to lower left, date in exergue, engraver initials B.P. to upper right for late Benedetto Pistrucci, edge finely milled, 8.04g (Bentley -; Marsh -; Dyer p.23-24 and plate D; WR 434 R6; Giordano P11; cf S.4063 p.506). Light hairlines peppering field on both sides, deeper hairline from bridge of nose into field, cloudy patch on the reverse field in front of horse's head with short scratch within, further light scratch in field above lance, otherwise brilliant with a frosted cameo design and lettering, practically as struck and of the highest rarity, the only solo example currently available to collectors and the first opportunity to obtain this coin in a London sale in nearly 30 years. £250,000-300,000

ex Spink, bought privately, October 1981

ex Professor R E Gibson, Collection of Sovereigns and Half-Sovereigns, Spink Auction 40, 6-7 December 1984, lot 640 and inside front cover illustration, sold for £40,000 hammer, by far the highest price in the sale

ex "100 Choice Coins", Ginza Coin 20th Anniversary Auction, Tokyo, Japan, 22 November 2008, lot 949

For further specific reading please see:

The Proposed Coinage of King Edward VIII, by G P Dyer, published 1973

Portraits of a Prince – Coins Medals and Banknotes of Edward VIII, by Joseph S Giordano Jr, published 2009

A King's Story, The Memoirs of HRH The Duke of Windsor KG, published 1951

Of the greatest rarity in the modern Proof Sovereign series, Edward VIII who controversially abdicated his throne for the woman he loved, was about to authorise a new coinage to be ready in time for his Coronation in 1937, and subsequently no British currency coin was issued for use by the public.

This example of his proof Sovereign is the only single coin available to collectors. There being only one other example in private hands as an integral part of a complete set of the proposed coinage of King Edward VIII. Notably the recent Bentley Collection did not possess an example. This is only the third time this actual coin has ever been publicly auctioned, and the first time it has been seen for sale in the UK since its first auction outing in 1984.

The coinage was controversial from Edward's refusal to follow coinage tradition in facing in the opposite direction to his predecessor, his father King George V who had faced left. This tradition started with King Charles II who wished to face the opposite way to Oliver Cromwell, and has been followed ever since, except for Edward VIII who preferred his left facing profile. An account of the King's own discussions with the Deputy Master, Sir Robert Johnson is detailed in his memoirs (pp.293-294), and reveals that the mint went as far as instructing the artist in favour, T H Paget, to transfer the King's left side facial features to a right facing portrait (the hair was not included in this swap) before the King had to insist on his left portrait only for coins and stamps, as was his privilege. These meetings, portrait sittings and presentation of plaster models occurred between 21 February and 28 April 1936 (Dyer pp.2-4), at which point the Deputy Master had to report to the Chancellor of the Exchequer that the King insisted on facing left, which was approved.

Looking back at contemporary reports about a proposed new coinage for King Edward VIII, it is interesting to quote one of the earliest announcements by the then Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Neville Chamberlain in the House of Commons from the 9 July 1936, where "in accordance with custom" specimen sets, of the first issue of coins of King Edward VIII would be issued to collectors and others requiring them. Sets of gold coins would be available at special prices to all who applied. Full details would be publicly announced and the issue would be available to applicants both at home and overseas. Most significantly the report ends with news that "A Coronation set of gold coins consists of four pieces - £5, £2, £1 and a half-sovereign" (reported in the Daily Telegraph, 10 July 1936, repeated in the Spink Numismatic Circular August 1936, p.283).

Within the minuscule number of existing proof sets of Edward VIII's coinage (only one of which is in private hands), there is of course no physical Half-Sovereign, none ever being struck, but this announcement shows that it was at least proposed as of July of 1936, even though the final designs had not been approved at that date. As time was of the essence, trial strikes of proposed obverse portraits and reverse designs were shown to the King for final approval 24 July 1936, where he chose the bare head left facing effigy by T H Paget to represent him on the obverse of British coins, and a crowned bust by Percy Metcalfe for the Dominions. The classic St George and dragon design after Pistrucci was chosen for gold coinage reverses, and a series of heraldic designs for the reverses of the silver denominations by Kruger Gray. The new dodecagonal brass Threepence with a thistle plant design was by

Madge Kitchener, the Penny by C W Coombes, the Halfpenny design was adapted from a Halfcrown proposal by T H Paget, and the Farthing with the wren by H Wilson Parker (Dyer pp.12-19).

In the interim between the House of Commons announcement, and the manufacture of dies and striking of the extremely rare proof coins, the decision was made to omit the gold Half-Sovereign from the proposed Coronation gold sets, the denominations of which all have milled edges, and that the sets were to be priced high enough to keep orders at a modest level (Dyer pp.23-24). This decision to not have a Half-Sovereign was viewed as numismatically controversial of the mint, and the later Coronation gold sets issued by King George VI did include all four gold coins, albeit all with plain edge to emphasise that they were "patterns" and not meant to circulate.

King Edward VIII abdicated 10 December, at which point in time a set of the new coins was almost ready for final approval (Dyer p.1) all with the portrait by T H Paget, who had so impressed the King previously with his left facing portrait on the Master Mariner medal (Giordano CM139) when Prince of Wales.

The Royal Mint reports for 1935-1936 from Deputy Master Sir Robert Johnson (issued December 1937; reported in The Times 23 December 1937 and repeated in the Spink Numismatic Circular March 1938, pp.96-97), revealed that at the time of the abdication in December 1936, some 200 dies for coins, medals, and seals that had been prepared for use, had to be scrapped. The whole process of preparation for a new coinage, medals and seals, started all over again for King George VI, though the chosen artists for the obverse portraiture remained the same as for Edward VIII, being Mr Paget and Mr Metcalfe.

In his publication, Giordano has tried to trace the whereabouts of all the sets and singles of the actual proof coins, and they are listed in a table on page 254. In relation to the gold Sovereign, Giordano gives a total of six examples in existence (with which we concur), two of which are held privately (one being an integral part of a complete set), the other four Sovereigns are all in institutions and integral parts of complete sets. The locations of the four sets in institutions are listed as Royal Family, British Museum and two in the Royal Mint. The Royal Family acquired their set as of 1 June 1938 (Giordano letter A, p.256). The Royal Collection Trust currently list an entry for their Sovereign on their website with identification number RCIN 443664, but an illustration is yet to appear in the public domain.

The Royal Mint took an inventory of what they had 12 September 1950 after the discovery of a group of coins in a sealed box in the late Deputy Master's safe, and found they had three complete sets, one of which later went to the British Museum (Giordano p.253 and letter B, p.257), and the Department of Coins and Medals there have so far listed online only the silver coins, again all yet to be illustrated in the public domain.

An interesting epilogue revealed in the Giordano publication, is that the Duke of Windsor later tried to obtain a set of the proof coins for himself from the Royal Mint, as evidenced from a Deputy Master memorandum of 3 December 1951 (Giordano letter C, p.258), which eventually had to be deferred for an answer from the King himself, who said "no" to his elder brother's request. The Duke died 25 May 1972, presumably having never owned or handled one of the finished coins depicting his left facing portrait, over which such great effort was expended. An unrivalled opportunity occurs now to bid for and own a piece of history that not even the Duke of Windsor had the privilege to own or handle. This is the only King Edward VIII gold Sovereign available that is not an integral component part of a proof set.

The George VI Gold Sovereign

For a narrative on the commemorative issue of George VI, please see the Bentley Collection Special Edition Catalogue, page 309

The Coronation Proof Sovereign of King George VI Dated 1937



2080 ♂ George VI (1936-1952), Gold Proof Sovereign, 1937, by Thomas Humphrey Paget, bare head left, *hp* in relief below, GEORGIVS VI D: G: BRITT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim both sides, *rev* struck en médaille, engraved after Benedetto Pistrucci, St George slaying dragon with sword, four strand streamer from helmet, no mane hair over rein hand, horse with long tail, broken lance on groundline to left, date in exergue, tiny *b.p.* to upper right, edge plain (Bentley 365; Marsh plate 50; WR 439; S 4076). Quite hairlined, otherwise good extremely fine. £1500-1800

It is known that 5501 gold Sovereigns were issued for the Coronation year

A report from "The Times", 3 October 1955, about the rarity of the 1953 gold coins examined more fully in the next lot, goes on to mention that the plain edged George VI gold Coronation sets were "probably illegal" as the Royal proclamation of 18 March 1937 had stated that they "shall have a graining upon the edge". The Spink Numismatic Circular of November 1955 and the Seaby Coin and Medal Bulletin of December 1955 reproduce this article.

Sovereigns dated 1925 of the design of George V were produced from all years 1949-1952, except 1950, totalling 886,000 pieces. See lot 2076 for an example for sale, and for more information.

King George VI died 6 February 1952 whilst his daughter Princess Elizabeth was away in Kenya

Elizabeth II Gold Sovereigns

For a narrative on the early issue of Elizabeth II, please see the Bentley Collection Special Edition Catalogue, page 311

The Greatest Rarity in The Coinage of our Current Queen The 1953 Coronation Proof Sovereign



2081 *g* Elizabeth II (accession 6th February 1952), Gold Proof Sovereign, 1953, young laureate head facing right, tiny incuse M. G. on truncation for engraver Mary Gillick, legend surrounding reads +ELIZABETH II DEI GRA: BRITT: OMN: REGINA F: D:, finely toothed border within twin concentric circles and raised rim both sides, *rev* struck en médaille, St George with flowing cloak and helmet with streamer, slaying dragon with sword, broken lance on ground to lower left, date in exergue, engraver initials B.P. to upper right for late Benedetto Pistrucci, edge coarsely milled, 7.97g (Bentley -; Marsh p.103 and plate 51; Duveen and Stride p.92; Norweb Collection (Part I), lot 300; WR 448 R5, this coin illustrated; S 4122). *Tiny black pinhead-sized spot in obverse field, cloudy tone with bright elements over underlying proof fields, frosted design and lettering, otherwise as struck and the only example available for private ownership, with an official Institutional provenance, as detailed in an accompanying letter of authenticity. This is a one year only type with different legend and punctuation compared to the later young head issues, of the highest rarity.* £250,000-300,000

ex National Museum of Wales, Institutional Collection sold privately with official permission from the Department of Trade and Industry circa 1990 via Spink, as detailed in accompanying letter from Mark Rasmussen Numismatist.

This complete set then sold privately via Mark Rasmussen mid-2005, component coins shortly after dispersed individually in late-2005 at which time the letter of authentication was issued.

One of the greatest rarities in the modern Proof Sovereign series, the Elizabeth II 1953 Proof Sovereign for the Coronation year was not issued for sale to private collectors and has a "classified" mintage. Gold four-coin sets of Five Pounds, Two Pounds, Sovereign and Half-Sovereign were made only for National and Institutional Numismatic Collections to display for the Coronation, as well as the Royal Family.

This is only the second occasion an example of the 1953 Proof Sovereign has ever been offered for sale at public auction, the first ever publicly sold being the Norweb Family example in 1985, which had reportedly emanated from Seaby circa 1960. At that time their cataloguer estimated that ten examples existed (the mintage being classified). It sold for £24,000 hammer 29 years ago, taking "bronze medal" position behind two of the greatest and celebrated gold and silver rarities in the British Series, the Henry III gold Penny and the Charles II Petition Crown. However, this Norweb provenanced coin was in later years reported missing within the British coin trade, and has not been seen or heard of since the late 1980s, and perhaps no longer exists.

Therefore this is the first opportunity in a generation, for nigh on three decades, for anyone to bid at auction for such a fabled rarity, and one with an excellent proven pedigree. This coin is the plate example as illustrated in the Wilson and Rasmussen reference on the subject, and there was no example present in the recent Bentley Collection. No guide price is currently given for it in the Spink Standard Catalogue which merely quotes each of the 1953 gold coins as being of the highest rarity, however they were once listed in this publication with prices in FDC condition as recently as the 2007 and 2008 editions with the Sovereign quoted at £150,000 retail.

The significant pedigree for this coin only adds to its eminence, it having once been part of the set that was housed in the National Museum of Wales, as certified in an accompanying letter "To whom it may concern" dated 16 December 2005 from Mark Rasmussen Numismatist, who certified its origin in brokering the sale of the set and subsequent dispersal in 2005 when the Hemisphere collector acquired it. The component coins of this National Museum of Wales set are all the actual examples illustrated in *English Pattern Trial and Proof Coins in Gold 1547-1968* by Wilson and Rasmussen (WR 444, 446, 448, 454).

Though the mintage is not known, recent research with the mint has shown that the 1953 gold coins were originally produced in two batches, the primary group consisting of six of the four-coin sets to supply the Royal and most senior National collections first, with a second batch later for other Numismatic Institutions with an additional set for the Royal Collection. The Royal Collection Trust website lists their two sets online under identification numbers RCIN443790-443797, there being only one of the Five Pounds obverses currently illustrated. It seems this second "batch" is the more classified and unknown element as to how many were struck, and seems to account for the Norweb coin which does not seem to have any Institutional provenance.

Contemporary news and anticipation of the new coinage for the new Queen can be followed through the pages of the Seaby Coin and Medal Bulletin (SCMB) who repeat articles from the Press. The first mention of proof gold coins dated 1953 is in the Sunday Express of the 14 December 1952, reproduced in the SCMB for February 1953 where it reports there is an intention to produce six sets of Coronation gold coins of £5, £2, £1 and 10s which will be struck for the "Royal Family and various museums" but so far officialdom has indicated that none will be issued to the public. The note adds that this is the first time since the inception of a successful gold coinage in the 14th Century reign of Edward III, that "no gold coins have been issued to commemorate a new monarch." What the comment really should have said, is that this was the first time that gold coins were to be produced only for institutions and not for issue to the public. This report no doubt refers to what became the first "batch" of gold coins, with six complete sets issued for respectively The Royal Family, The Royal Mint, The British Museum, The National Museums of Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

This is reiterated in the SCMB for May 1953, where it is emphasised that no British gold coinage will be available for collectors, and that the South Africa mint will produce the only gold coins for the public dated 1953 with the Queen's portrait, being the gold One Pond and Half Pond which they hoped to supply to their clients. The fact the public could not own a set of gold 1953 coins caused some contemporary comment, which was published in *The Times* letter pages in August of 1953, and reproduced in the SCMB of October 1953, being a "Plea for Gold Coins" detailing that an issue of some 10,000 sets for public consumption would be most desirable for the correspondent (this being nearly double the George VI gold set mintage - 5501).

The next mention actually of a gold set presumably on display, is that, in what is today the National Museum of Northern Ireland in Belfast, as reported in the *Belfast Telegraph* of the 4 January 1954, reported in the SCMB for February 1954. This National collection was curated by Mr W A Seaby, who was related to the Directors of the famous coin firm, and the exhibition was displayed as a geographical "Royal Tour" with one paragraph of the report mentioning that "the coins are arranged in order of the tour, and the first group is a proof set of English coins which had not been shown before at the Museum."

The *Scotsman* newspaper of 19 October published in Edinburgh and repeated in the SCMB of December 1954 reiterates that a "small number" of 1953 gold coins, specifically £5 and £2 in the report, have been made by the Royal Mint for British numismatic museums, which could perhaps by now refer to the second batch production. The report goes on that they were made as per Royal Proclamation and that none will be available to private collectors, or for circulation.

Much later on, the June 1955 SCMB gives details of the 84th Royal Mint report for 1953 that relates to the new Elizabethan coinage, wherein it mentions that a "very small number of gold sets (Five Pounds, Two Pounds, Sovereign and Half-Sovereign) bearing Her Majesty's portrait and St George and dragon reverse were struck. None of these were available to collectors but one set has been placed in the British Museum."

ecember edition of the SCMB repeats a report from *The Times* of 3 October 1955 that reiterates the rarity of these 1953 sets, of which none were issued for collectors. It mentions that one was for the Royal Family, one for the British Museum and one for the Royal Mint and concludes that "a few - probably less than half a dozen - have been struck". Interestingly this report goes on to say that the plain edged George VI gold Coronation sets were "probably illegal" as the Royal proclamation of 18 March 1937 had stated that they "shall have a graining upon the edge," and that the purist (numismatist) should rejoice that the 1953 sets "have no such irregularity" being correctly grained. The Spink Numismatic Circular only contains one contemporary comment from November 1955 that repeats this word for word transcription of the same report.

Contemporary reference books make small mention of the rarity of the 1953 gold coins. *The History of the Gold Sovereign*, published in 1962 by Sir Geoffrey Duveen and H G Stride who was Chief Clerk of the mint at the time, mentions a "small number of Sovereigns were struck for the national collections" though their mintage tables record the number for 1953 production as "Nil" and they did not mention Edward VIII's coinage at all. Seaby British Coin expert Peter Alan Rayner in his 1954 pamphlet on "the Designers & Engravers of the English Milled Coinage 1662-1953" does not tabulate or even mention the gold coins, though he did mention proof sets of Edward VIII exist. No mention is made by Capt J J Cullimore-Allen in the 1965 publication, *Sovereigns of the British Empire*, of the 1953 proof Sovereigns apart from saying that no 1953 Sovereigns were issued. The more recent *New History of the Royal Mint*, edited by C Challis, published 1992, notes on page 589 that the mint decided in 1953 that gold coins for issue to the public would be "too much of an extravagance."

It is of the greatest significance that approximately 25 years ago, the Director of the National Museum of Wales made a decision to sell their 1953 gold set privately, and that as there was already another set in Wales housed at the Royal mint, the request was granted by the Department of Trade and Industry. This historic flow of events back then has resulted in an unrivalled, once in a generation opportunity for collectors to secure a piece of numismatic history of the highest rarity at this auction.

First Bust Sovereigns with Second Type Legend of Queen Elizabeth II



2082 *g* **Elizabeth II, Gold Sovereigns (3), 1957, edge coarse milling, 1958, 1959, regular milling on edge, by Mary Gillick, young laureate head right, tiny incuse M.G. on truncation, second type legend, +ELIZABETH. II. DEI. GRATIA. REGINA. F:D:, finely toothed border both sides, rev struck en médaille, by Benedetto Pistrucci, St George slaying dragon with sword, helmet with streamer, horse with long tail, broken lance on groundline to left, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley 367, 369, 371; Marsh 297, 298, 299; S 4124). First two toned, uncirculated, the last with surface marks and hairlines, mainly on obverse, good extremely fine. (3)** £550-650

Calendar year mintages 2,072,000; 8,700,000; 1,385,368 respectively

The 1957 Sovereign has coarser edge milling than later issues and therefore seems to have the same edge treatment as the 1953 proof gold Sovereign. The issue of 1957 marks the first time a gold British coin lacks the title BRITT. OMN: in the legend.

With 1959 for once it is known how much of this calendar year output was dated 1959, and how much was the overflow from 1958, due to the efforts of H G Stride in his co-authorship of the *History of the Gold Sovereign* with Sir Geoffrey Duveen. It turns out a mere 140 Sovereigns of this total were dated still as 1958 before the dies were changed over to 1959 dated coins.



2083 *g* **Elizabeth II, Gold Sovereigns (3), 1962, 1963, 1964, young laureate head right, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley 372, 374, 375; Marsh 300, 301, 302; S 4125). All with light nicks, bagmarks and hairlines, otherwise generally good extremely fine. (3)** £550-650

Calendar year mintages 3,000,000; 7,400,000; 3,000,000 respectively

The Calendar outputs from here onward are taken from Michael Marsh's *The Gold Sovereign*.



2084 *g* **Elizabeth II, Gold Sovereigns (4), 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, young laureate head right, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley 376, 377, 378, 379; Marsh 303, 304, 305, 306; S 4125). First uncirculated, the others generally with bagmarks on bust, surface marks and hairlines, good extremely fine. (4)** £700-900

Calendar year mintages 3,800,000; 7,050,000; 5,000,000; 4,203,000 respectively

The highest mintage year of this lot happens to be 1966, the year that England won the World Cup for football

The 1968 Sovereign is the last year for the Mary Gillick portrait upon this denomination

The total calendar year output for the young head portrait Sovereigns of Queen Elizabeth II = 45,610,368 pieces

From 1969 to 1973 inclusive there are no dated British Sovereigns, the next issue being the 1974 decimal issue

The Decimal Type Sovereign of Elizabeth II Issued 1974-1884



2085 *g* **Elizabeth II, Gold Sovereigns (4), Post-Decimalisation, 1974, 1976, 1978, designed by Arnold Machin, second crowned and draped bust right, ELIZABETH. II. DEI. GRATIA. REGINA. F: D:, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim both sides, rev struck en médaille, engraved after Benedetto Pistrucci, St George slaying dragon with sword, helmet with streamer, horse with long tail, broken lance on groundline to left, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right; with Isle of Man, Gold Proof Sovereign, 1973, similar bust, ISLE OF MAN ELIZABETH II, finely toothed border, rev Viking equestrian figure prancing left, rocks beyond, date in exergue, small engraver initials PM to upper right, ornate outer border surrounding with Isle of Man triskeles at top, edge milled (cf Bentley 1238; Marsh 307, 308, 309; S 4204; KM 27). The Isle of Man piece practically as struck and a touch lighter in official weight than the British pieces, others generally as struck, the second prooflike, last with one small metal flaw at end of obverse legend.** (4) £700-900

Calendar year mintages 5,002,566; 4,045,056; 6,555,000; respectively, Isle of Man=40,000

The Royal Mint moves from London to Llantrisant, Wales from 1969, to be ready to issue new decimal coinage by 1971.

Decimalisation comes into being on 14 February 1971, and the currency Decimal Coinage contained new reverse designs for the new denominations apart from the more ceremonial gold coinage (Sovereigns 1974, other gold 1980) and the Maundy coins. The obverse carried the new "decimal" portrait engraved by Arnold Machin (1911-1999), which had been in gestation since circa 1963, and was first used on the 1968 issue of cupro-nickel Ten New Pence, and Five New Pence coins which were released into circulation first as their physical dimensions and value equated with the Florin and Shilling in the pre-decimal series. He also designed the bust used for postage stamps from 1967 in the transition from pre-decimal to decimal values.

There being no British Sovereign for 1973, the Hemisphere Collector purchased an Isle of Man piece to fill that date, though this issue does not have the same legal tender value as the British Sovereigns.

There were no British Sovereigns for 1975 or 1977, the latter being an opportunity missed for the Royal Mint perhaps, as it was Silver Jubilee year for Queen Elizabeth II.



2086 *g* **Elizabeth II, Gold Proof Sovereigns (3), 1979, 1980, 1981, second crowned and draped bust right, with frosted design elements, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley -; cf Marsh 310, 311, 312; S 4204). Generally as struck, without certificates or boxes.** (3) £550-650

Numbers issued 50,000; 81,200; 32,960 respectively

In modern decimal times the mint has released figures of how many examples of a commemorative proof coin are actually "issued" rather than a calendar year output. These figures are useful as often certificates with such coins describe them as a "Limited Edition" figure, giving the maximum number that could exist. The issue figure is often less than the limit of the edition, if an edition of a coin is not sold out. Currency Sovereigns were issued concurrently with the proof issue for 1979 to 1982 inclusive. It is interesting to note how the number issued of these proof Sovereigns follows the public interest in gold at that time. Gold was approaching an all-time high in real terms of spending power through 1979 to 1980, reaching a peak on the 21 January 1980 at US\$850 an ounce, thus explaining the massive demand translated as sales of the Proof Sovereign dated 1980 as well as new four coin gold sets with the component coin of the Sovereign with the Five Pounds, Two Pounds and Half-Sovereign. Gold price then declined throughout that year, at times quite dramatically, with limited recovery, resulting in declining sales for the upcoming 1981 Proof that were less than half the 1980 issue. This then followed on to even lower issue numbers in succeeding years.



2087 G Elizabeth II, Gold Proof Sovereigns (3), 1982, 1983, 1984, second crowned and draped bust right, with frosted design elements, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley -; cf Marsh 313; S 4204). Generally as struck, first with some light spots on reverse, this and the second with evidence of light fingerprint, last toned, without certificates or boxes. (3) £550-650

Numbers issued 20,000; 21,250; 12,880 respectively

A currency issue Sovereign also exists for 1982, but from 1983 to 1999 inclusive there are only proof issues, perhaps due to the low uptake by the public as gold price rode through the doldrums in price level throughout the 1980s and 1990s, only becoming once more "profitable" for the mint as gold price increased in the early part of this century.

1984 is the last date the "decimal" head by Arnold Machin was issued and total production of "currency" British gold Sovereigns with this bust totalled 37,752,622 from 1974-1982, with an additional issue of 218,290 Proof Sovereigns from 1979-1984.

Third Crowned Bust Sovereign of Elizabeth II by Maklouf Issued 1985-1997



2088 G Elizabeth II, Gold Proof Sovereigns (4), 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, with frosted design elements, third crowned portrait right, engraved by Raphael Maklouf, RM incuse on truncation, legend reads ELIZABETH II DEI. GRA. REG. F. D, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim both sides, rev struck en médaille, engraved after Benedetto Pistrucci, St George slaying dragon with sword, helmet with streamer, horse with long tail, broken lance on groundline to left, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley -; S 4271). Generally as struck, third with a few light spots on the reverse, last toned, without certificates or boxes. (4) £750-850

Numbers issued 11,393; 5,079; 9,979; 7,670 respectively

From 1985 a new updated portrait of Queen Elizabeth II is adopted for coinage, engraved by Raphael Maklouf (b.1937) depicting her wearing a necklace and earrings. Our postage stamps meanwhile continue to carry the Machin portrait.

The 500th Anniversary of the Sovereign 1489-1989



2089 G Elizabeth II, Gold Proof Sovereign, 1989, 500th anniversary edition, design styled in the form of the Henry VII Sovereign, engraved by Bernard Sindall, full figure of Queen seated on throne, holding sceptres, throne back breaks inner beaded circle, legend reads ELIZABETH. II. DEI. GRA. REG. FID. DEF., raised rim both sides, rev struck en médaille, crowned quartered shield of arms, upon blooming rose, top ornament of crown breaks inner beaded circle, legend reads ANNIVERSARY. OF. THE. GOLD. SOVEREIGN. 1489.1989, edge milled (Bentley -; S 4272). Toned, as struck, without box or certificate. £400-500

Number issued 10,535 proof Sovereigns

A one year only type on the occasion of the 500th Anniversary of the Sovereign, engraved by sculptor Bernard Sindall (1925-1998). The Royal Mint also published the book *Royal Sovereign* in celebration of this event in 1989 which is still one of the best references for the history of the gold Sovereign.



2090 *G* Elizabeth II, Gold Proof Sovereigns (4), 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, with frosted design elements, third crowned portrait right, engraved by Raphael Maklouf, RM incuse on truncation, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, the horse tail is further from the border than those dated in the 1980s, date in exergue (Bentley -; S 4271). *Generally as struck, first with cloudy tone patch behind bust, second toned on the obverse, without certificates or boxes.* (4) £750-850

Numbers issued 4,767; 4,713; 4,772; 4,349 respectively

The output of regular Proof Sovereigns issued for 1993 is the lowest figure to date in the reign of Queen Elizabeth II. A new decade from 1990 meant a new reverse die matrix was required, the whole reverse has slight differences to those produced in the 1980s. The tail is further from the rim border, the strands of hair within the tail are of a more curved arrangement with no extra spur of hair in the upper curve. The B.P. initials have moved slightly closer to the recut groundline. The helmet streamer is broader and slightly shorter. The dragon has less definition of the detail in the wings and claws with a distinct gap between its outstretched tongue and the wing, which on previous reverses nearly touched the said wing.



2091 *G* Elizabeth II, Gold Proof Sovereigns (4), 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, with frosted design elements, third crowned portrait right, engraved by Raphael Maklouf, RM incuse on truncation, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, date in exergue (Bentley -; S 4271). *Generally as struck, without certificates or boxes.* (4) £750-850

Numbers issued 5,000; 4,900; 5,730; 7,500 respectively

1997 is the last date for British coins upon which the Maklouf bust was portrayed. The total output of proof issue Maklouf portrait Sovereigns = 80,220 pieces.

The Fourth Crowned Bust Sovereign of Elizabeth II by Broadley Issued Since 1998



2092 *G* Elizabeth II, Gold Proof Sovereigns (4), 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, with frosted design elements, fourth crowned portrait right, engraved by Ian Rank Broadley, IRB raised below head, legend reads, ELIZABETH II DEI GRA REGINA FID DEF, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim both sides, *rev* struck en médaille, engraved after Benedetto Pistrucci, St George slaying dragon with sword, helmet with streamer, horse with long tail, broken lance on groundline to left, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley -; S 4430). *Generally as struck, the second slightly cloudy in tone, without certificates or boxes.* (4) £750-850

Numbers issued 10,000; 10,000; 9,909; 8,915 respectively

1998 introduces a new crowned portrait by Ian Rank Broadley (b.1952), the reverse continues with the 1990s St George reverse discussed in detail in lot 88. Our postage stamps meanwhile persist to this day with the crowned portrait by Arnold Machin. 2000 marked the dawning of a new Millennium, and the Royal Mint start to issue "bullion type" Sovereigns once again.



2093 *G* **Elizabeth II**, Gold Sovereigns (5), 2000, 2001, 2003, 2004, 2006, bullion type, fourth crowned portrait right, engraved by Ian Rank Broadley, IRB raised below head, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, helmet with streamer, date in exergue (Bentley -; Marsh 314, 315; S 4430). *Generally as struck, the fourth with cloudy tone and with light fingerprint, last a little clouded.* (5) £900-1100

Numbers issued 129,069; 49,462; 43,230; 30,668 respectively. The 2006 production figure issued is no longer published for bullion type, but the edition limit was 75,000.

According to the Standard Catalogue, the year 2000 was a bumper year for the bullion piece due to the public interest in the change of century and a new Millennium.

The 2006 dated Sovereign has a slightly taller date configuration than the earlier pieces.

The Golden Jubilee Sovereign issue of Elizabeth II



2094 *G* **Elizabeth II**, Gold Proof Sovereign, 2002, frosted design elements, with bullion type Gold Sovereign, 2002, Golden Jubilee Issue, fourth crowned portrait right, engraved by Ian Rank Broadley, IRB raised below head, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim both sides, rev crowned quartered shield of arms, laurel wreath surrounding, date below, TN monogram to lower right of dexter wreath, designed by Timothy Noad (Bentley -; Marsh 316, plates 58 and 59; S 4431). *Proof issue as struck, the bullion issue with a cloudy tone, otherwise practically as struck, without box or certificate.* (2) £350-400

Numbers issued Proof=12,500; Bullion=75,264

Golden Jubilee Year 2002 ensured a great interest in the coinage with a one off special design by Timothy Noad of the reverse reminiscent of the Victoria shield back Sovereign giving a one year only type for collectors. Marsh illustrates an image of Timothy Noad's original artwork for the reverse design on plate 58.



2095 *G* **Elizabeth II**, Gold Proof Sovereigns (3), 2003, 2004, 2006, fourth crowned portrait right, engraved by Ian Rank Broadley, IRB raised below head, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, helmet with streamer, date in exergue (Bentley -; S 4430). *All practically as struck, without boxes or certificates.* (3) £550-650

Numbers issued 12,433; 10,175; 9,195 respectively, including those included in gold proof sets
The 2006 dated Sovereign has a slightly taller date configuration than the earlier pieces.

One Year Stylised St George Reverse Sovereign of Elizabeth II Dated 2005



2096 g Elizabeth II, Gold Proof Sovereign, 2005, frosted design elements, with bullion type Gold Sovereign, 2005, fourth crowned portrait right, engraved by Ian Rank Broadley, IRB raised below head, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim both sides, rev modern interpretation of armoured St George slaying dragon with sword at close quarters, date below, TN monogram to right of dragon wing, designed by Timothy Noad, toothed border (Bentley -; S 4432). Both practically as struck, without box or certificate. (2) £350-400

Numbers issued Proof=12,500; Bullion=45,542
Another departure from the normal design of the Sovereign has Timothy Noad's modern depiction of St George, our patron Saint, creating another one year only type.

For the First Time Fully Described A Revised St George Reverse Sovereign of Elizabeth II Dated 2007



2097 g Elizabeth II, Gold Proof Sovereign, 2007, frosted design elements, with bullion type Gold Sovereign, 2007, fourth crowned portrait right, engraved by Ian Rank Broadley, IRB raised below head, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim both sides, rev re-engraved St George slaying dragon with sword, extra fold in cape to previous reverses, longer helmet streamer with different strand arrangement, horse with longer fuller tail nearly touching lance, flatter shallower design with less sinew detail to bodies of St George, horse and dragon, longer thicker broken lance on left side of ground-line, more definition to ground, dragon tail with extra curl onto ground, dragon with very curved claws, extra claw on lower arm, date in deeper exergue, very tiny BP doubled and touching ground above without stops (Bentley -; S 4430). Both practically as struck, the differences in the design not noted in the Standard Catalogue, without boxes or certificates. (2) £350-400

Edition limited to Proof=12,500, the 2007 production figure issued is no longer published for bullion type, but the edition limit was 75,000

This different reverse appears to be of cruder workmanship to previous years with its "shallow" appearance to the main elements, but has more detail in more minor elements of the ground and lance. Perhaps in years to come this will be delineated separately in the standard catalogues as a one year only type.

For the First Time Fully Described

St George Reverse Sovereign of Elizabeth II with Further Revision Dated 2008



2098 G Elizabeth II, Gold Proof Sovereign, 2008, frosted design elements, with bullion type Gold Sovereign, 2008, fourth crowned portrait right, engraved by Ian Rank Broadley, IRB raised below head, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim both sides, rev re-engraved St George slaying dragon with sword, different helmet streamer, last strand curves upward, longer tail to horse nearly touches lance, some strands curve away from horse, larger date figures in deeper exergue, small B.P. to upper right (Bentley -; S 4430). *Proof issue as struck, the bullion issue with a cloudy tone, otherwise practically as struck, the differences in the design not noted in the Standard Catalogue, without boxes or certificates.* (2) £350-400

Edition limited to Proof=8,199; Bullion=75,000

Another slightly different reverse that appears to be of cruder workmanship to previous years, this time with larger date figures, and different treatment of the helmet streamer and other minor elements in the horse tail. The B.P. initials are at least readable and are of a similar size to the usual seen earlier in this decade. Perhaps in years to come this 2008 issue will also be delineated separately in the catalogues as a one year only type as we transit to yet another new treatment of St George from the 2009 issue.



2099 G Elizabeth II, Gold Proof Sovereigns (4), 2009, 2010, 2011, 2013, frosted design elements, fourth crowned portrait right, engraved by Ian Rank Broadley, IRB raised below head, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, helmet without streamer, date in more regular exergue, widely spaced B. P. to upper right (Bentley -; S 4433). *All practically as struck, the second slightly cloudy, without boxes or certificates.* (4) £800-1000

Edition limits 16,000; 16,000; 15,000; 10,295 respectively including those included in gold proof sets

Another revision of the reverse suggests total new cutting of the reverse die, the re-engraved versions of 2007-2008 highlighted in print for the first time in lots 2097 and 2098 previously did not continue for 2009. The new reverse returns to a version of St George without a streamer upon his helmet for the first time in over 120 years. This was how Pistrucci rendered his second St George design, used for the reign of George IV from 1821-1825 and was later used upon the Victoria young head St George Sovereigns from 1871-1887.



2100 G Elizabeth II, Gold Sovereigns (4), 2009, 2010, 2011, 2013, fourth crowned portrait right, engraved by Ian Rank Broadley, IRB raised below head, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, helmet without streamer, date in exergue (Bentley -; S 4433). *All practically as struck.* (4) £700-900

Edition limits 75,000; 250,000; 250,000 respectively, 2013 edition not yet published

See footnote to lot 93 for the historical significance of the use of a St George reverse without helmet streamer

The total issue of Broadley portrait "currency" gold Sovereigns from 2000-2013 inclusive is circa 1,438,235 pieces

The total issue of Broadley portrait Proof gold Sovereigns from 1998-2013 inclusive is circa 178,970 pieces

The total issue for Queen Elizabeth II to 2013 is in the region of 85,289,240 pieces

The Diamond Jubilee Sovereign Issue of Elizabeth II



2101 *g* Elizabeth II, Gold Proof Sovereign, 2012, frosted design elements, with bullion type Gold Sovereign, 2012, fourth crowned portrait right, engraved by Ian Rank Broadley, IRB raised below head, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim both sides, *rev* new artistic rendition of armoured St George on horseback slaying dragon with lance, date at lower left, PJD below horse hoof, thick raised rim only surrounding, designed by Paul Day (Bentley -; S 4434). Both as struck, without boxes or certificates. (2) £350-400

Edition limited to Proof=8,144; Bullion=250,000

The significant year for the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II gives another one year only type for collectors of the gold Sovereign.

The total output of gold Sovereigns from the Royal Mint in the UK from 1817 till 2013 – nearly 200 years of production – has just exceeded 600 million pieces.

OFFICIAL BRANCHES OF THE ROYAL MINT LONDON

Australia

Sydney Mint

Application and legislation to construct a mint begins 1851

Ratified by Order of Council in the presence of Queen Victoria, 19 August 1853

Built on the site of the Old Rum Hospital, Macquarie Street, Sydney, opening on 14 May 1855

Last date used upon Sydney mint Sovereigns 1926

Sydney mint closed on 31 December 1926

For further reading please Bentley Collection Special Edition Catalogue, page 323



2102 *g* Victoria (1837-1901), Gold Sovereign, Sydney branch mint, 1855, first type, engraved by Joshua Payne, obverse designed by James Wyon, first young head left, with double fillet, small date below, toothed border and raised rim both sides, VICTORIA D: G: BRITANNIAR: REGINA: F: D:, *rev* struck with inverted die axis, reverse designed by Leonard Charles Wyon, AUSTRALIA at centre, crown above, within laurel wreath tied with bow at bottom, SYDNEY MINT above, ONE SOVEREIGN below, edge milled (Bentley 629; McD 102; QM 25 R3; Marsh 360 R; KM 2; Fr 9). Some heavy scuffs and surface marks both sides, about very fine and rare. £800-1000

Calendar year mintage 502,000

This is the first full year of output for currency sovereigns from the Sydney mint. For a narrative about the opening of the mint please see the Bentley Collection special edition catalogue, page 323.



2103 G Victoria, Gold Sovereign, Sydney branch mint, 1856, first young head left, with double fillet, small date below, rev AUSTRALIA at centre, crown above, within laurel wreath tied with bow at bottom, SYDNEY MINT above, ONE SOVEREIGN below (Bentley 630; McD 103; QM 27 R3; Marsh 361 R; KM 2; Fr 9). Cleaned with heavy scuffs and surface marks both sides, about fine, reverse better, rare. £600-800

Calendar year mintage 981,000

The total mintage of the first type design at the Sydney mint from 1855-6 = 1,483,000 pieces

The Second Type "AUSTRALIA" Sovereign

The second incarnation of the Sydney mint Sovereign occurs in 1857 for currency after a pattern submitted by Leonard C Wyon, dated 1855. It seems Leonard's Father, William Wyon, perhaps influenced this portrait style of hair, as the gathered hair is very similar to that seen on the British Gothic Florin and Crown from 1847 onward.



2104 G Victoria, Gold Sovereign, Sydney branch mint, 1857, engraved by Joshua Payne, designed by Leonard Charles Wyon, second young head left, with hair gathered and plaited, looping under the ear and entwined into a looped bun at rear, wreath of banksia in hair, date below, toothed border and raised rim both sides, VICTORIA D: G: BRITANNIAR: REG: F: D:, rev struck with inverted die axis, AUSTRALIA at centre, crown above, within laurel wreath tied with bow at bottom, SYDNEY MINT above, ONE SOVEREIGN below, edge milled (Bentley 631; McD 104; QM 29 R3; Marsh 362 R; KM 4; Fr 10). Scratch to right of crown on the reverse, some scuffs, nicks and surface marks, otherwise very fine. £200-300

Calendar year mintage 449,000



2105 G Victoria, Gold Sovereigns (4), Sydney branch mint, 1858, with low 5 in misaligned date, 1860, 1861, 1865, second young head left, with wreath of banksia in hair, date below, rev crown and laurel wreath arranged around AUSTRALIA at centre, denomination below, legend above (Bentley 633, 635, 638, 645; McD 105, 107, 108, 112; QM 30 R3, 32 R3, 33 R2, 38 R2; Marsh 363 R, 365 R, 366, 370; KM 4; Fr 10). Generally all heavily scuffed with surface marks, first fine, the second ex-mount with rim bruises and abrasions, digs in field and scratches on cheek, fine, the third with rim bruise, good fine, the last good fine. (4) £800-1000

Calendar year mintage 1,101,500; 1,573,500; 1,626,000; 2,130,500 respectively



2106



2107

2106 *G* **Victoria**, Gold Sovereign, Sydney branch mint, 1859, second young head left, with wreath of banksia in hair, date below, *rev* crown and laurel wreath arranged around AUSTRALIA at centre, denomination below, legend above (Bentley 634; McD 106; QM 31 R2; Marsh 364; KM 4; Fr 10). *Scuffed with surface marks, otherwise very fine.* £200-300

Calendar year mintage 1,050,500

2107 *G* **Victoria**, Gold Sovereign, Sydney branch mint, 1862, second young head left, with wreath of banksia in hair, date below, *rev* crown and laurel wreath arranged around AUSTRALIA at centre, denomination below, legend above (Bentley 641; McD 109; QM 35 R3; Marsh 367; KM 4; Fr 10). *Some surface marks and scuffs as per usual, otherwise pleasing very fine.* £400-500

Calendar year mintage 2,477,500



2108 *G* **Victoria**, Gold Sovereign, Sydney branch mint, 1863, second young head left, with wreath of banksia in hair, date below, hooked sharp 6 without bulb at top, *rev* crown and laurel wreath arranged around AUSTRALIA at centre, denomination below, legend above (Bentley 642; McD 110; QM 36 R2; Marsh 368; KM 4; Fr 10). *Once cleaned, surface marks and scuffs, otherwise good very fine.* £400-500

Calendar year mintage 1,255,500

For 1863 and 1864 a sharper hooked 6 date figure punch seems to be used most regularly.



2109



2110

2109 *G* **Victoria**, Gold Sovereign, Sydney branch mint, 1864, second young head left, with wreath of banksia in hair, date below, hooked sharp 6, *rev* crown and laurel wreath arranged around AUSTRALIA at centre, denomination below, legend above (Bentley 644; McD 111; QM 37; Marsh 369; KM 4; Fr 10). *Some surface marks and scuffs, otherwise very fine.* £300-400

Calendar year mintage 2,698,500

For 1863 and 1864 a sharper hooked 6 date figure punch seems to be used most regularly.

2110 *G* **Victoria**, Gold Sovereign, Sydney branch mint, 1866, second young head left, with wreath of banksia in hair, date below, curvy 6's with bulbed tops, *rev* crown and laurel wreath arranged around AUSTRALIA at centre, denomination below, legend above (Bentley 648; McD 113; QM 40 S; Marsh 371; KM 4; Fr 10). *Some scuffs and surface marks, very fine.* £200-300

Calendar year mintage 2,911,000



2111 G Victoria, Gold Sovereigns (3), Sydney branch mint, 1867, 1868, struck in 22 carat gold alloyed with 8.33% silver, 1870, struck in 22 carat gold alloyed with 8.33% copper, second young head left, with wreath of banksia in hair, date below, rev crown and laurel wreath arranged around AUSTRALIA at centre, denomination below, legend above (Bentley 650, 651, 653; McD 114, 115, 117; QM 41, -; 44; Marsh 373, 374, 375; KM 4; Fr 10). Generally with scuffs, surface marks and hairlines, the second with scratch at back of neck and another on reverse below T in central legend, scuff above centre, the first fine to good fine, the second about very fine, the last very fine with red tinge of copper showing. (3) £600-800

Calendar year mintages 2,370,000; 2,319,000 to which should be added that for calendar year 1869 of 1,202,000; 1,220,000 respectively.

The Sydney mint type Sovereigns are all struck in 22 carat gold and usually alloyed with 8.33% silver as demonstrated here with the 1867 and 1868, from late 1868 onwards the mintage was alloyed with 8.33% copper instead of silver as with the 1870 dated piece here. The Quartermaster Collection did not contain the 1868 with silver alloy as we have here.

The total output of the Australia type coins of the Sydney mint dating from 1855 to 1870 totalled 25,867,500 pieces. The second design from 1857-1870 accounts for 24,384,500 Sovereigns of this total.

Imperial Type "Shield" Sovereigns of the Sydney Mint

For further reading about this issue from the Sydney mint please see the Bentley Collection Special Edition Catalogue, page 332



2112 G Victoria, Gold Sovereign, Sydney branch mint, 1871S, engraved after William Wyon, third young head style left, with double fillet, ww incuse without stops on truncation date below, toothed border and raised rim both sides, VICTORIA DEI GRATIA, rev struck with inverted die axis, engraved after Jean Baptiste Merlen, crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter S below, emblems below (Bentley 654; McD 118b; QM 46; Marsh 69; KM 6; Fr 11; S 3855). Some scuffs and heavy surface marks, very fine. £200-300

Calendar year mintage 2,814,000, includes St George reverse design

This obverse bust is the same as the second young head in the London series in use from 1848 to 1869 inclusive. It is therefore a very late usage of this bust and this die may have been made much earlier than 1871 in anticipation of the new mint opening at Sydney, perhaps engraved during 1869 when this head was still in common use at the Royal Mint in London.



2113 G Victoria, Gold Sovereign, 1872S, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, die flaw from letter C to rim, rev crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter S below (Bentley 656; McD 119; QM 47; Marsh 70; KM 6; Fr 11; S 3855). Surface marks and hairlines, good very fine. £300-400

Calendar year mintage 1,815,000, includes St George reverse design



2114 *g* Victoria, Gold Sovereigns (5), 1873S, 1875S, 1877S, 1878S, 1879S, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, first with raised die flaw at RI of Queen's name, rev crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter S below (Bentley 657, 658, 659, 660, 661; McD 121, 123, 124, 125, 126; QM 50, 52, 53, 54, 55; Marsh 71, 72, 73, 74, 75; KM 6; Fr 11; S 3855). All with surface marks and hairlines, first very fine, the second with series of digs on bust, bold very fine, the third and fourth toned, about very fine to very fine, the last about very fine. (5) £1000-1500

Calendar year mintages 1873=1,478,000; 1875=2,122,000; 1879=1,366,000, all include St George reverse design. 1877=1,590,000; 1878=1,259,000 dates which both consist of shield type Sovereigns only.

There were no 1874 S or 1876 S shield reverse Sydney Sovereigns minted.



2115 *g* Victoria, Gold Sovereign, 1880S, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, rev crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter S below (Bentley 664; McD 127; QM 57; Marsh 76; KM 6; Fr 11; S 3855). Two light scratches on bust and one on reverse shield, otherwise scuffed with surface marks, good very fine. £350-450

Calendar year mintage 1,459,000, includes St George reverse design.

Rare Earlier Type Young Head 1882S Sovereign Not listed in Bentley or The Standard Catalogue



2116 *g* Victoria, Gold Sovereign, 1882S, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, rev crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter S below (Bentley -; McD 131; QM 62; Marsh 78; KM 6; Fr 11; S 3855). Short scratch on neck, surface marks and hairlines, otherwise toned, good fine, reverse better, the rarer earlier bust variety for the date, no example present in the Bentley Collection. £200-300

Calendar year mintage 1,298,000, includes both bust varieties. The latest Spink catalogue only lists the bust varieties as three types, when there are really four as defined in the Bentley Collection. This date is unlisted in the latest Spink catalogue for this final use of the obverse bust variety. It is interesting to note the Bentley Collection did not contain an example of the earlier third head obverse 1882S shield Sovereign, listed as the rarer variety within the Quartermaster Collection.



2117 *G* **Victoria**, Gold Sovereigns (3), 1881S, 1885S, 1886S, fourth young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation which is more truncated with a pointed tip at front, hair behind ear with longer strand, hairline higher on forehead, date below, rev crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter S below (Bentley 666, 670, 671; McD 129, 137, 139; QM 60, 68, 70; Marsh 77, 81, 82; KM 6; Fr 11; S 3855B). All with some scuffs and surface marks, first bold very fine, the second toned, good very fine, the last very fine. (3) £600-800

Calendar year mintage 1,360,000; 1,486,000; 1,667,000, includes St George reverse design



2118 *G* **Victoria**, Gold Sovereign, 1883S, fourth young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, rev crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter S below (Bentley 668; McD 133; QM 64; Marsh 79; KM 6; Fr 11; S 3855B). Heavily hairlined with some scuffing, otherwise extremely fine with residual brilliance. £300-400

Calendar year mintage 1,108,000, includes St George reverse design



2119 *G* **Victoria**, Gold Sovereign, 1884S, fourth young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, lightly die flawed date and legend both sides, rev crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter S below (Bentley 669; McD 135; QM 66; Marsh 80; KM 6; Fr 11; S 3855B). Scuffed with light surface marks, about extremely fine. £250-350

Calendar year mintage 1,595,000, includes St George reverse design



2120 *G* **Victoria**, Gold Sovereign, 1887S, fourth young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, rev crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter S below (Bentley 672; McD 141; QM 72 S; Marsh 83; KM 6; Fr 11; S 3855). Some scuffs with surface marks and hairlines, otherwise practically extremely fine. £300-400

Calendar year mintage 1,000,000, includes St George reverse design

Imperial Type "St George" Sovereigns of the Sydney Mint

For further reading about this issue from the Sydney Mint please see the Bentley Collection Special Edition Catalogue, page 340



2121 *G* Victoria, Gold Sovereigns (4), 1871S, 1872S, 1873S, 1874S, long tail horse, young head of third style left, letter S below close to neck, w.w. buried in truncation in relief, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, first and last with eight claws on dragon arms, other two with only partial claws, horse with long tail, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley 674, 675, 676, 677; McD 143a, 144, 146, 148; QM 75 R2, 76, 78, 80; Marsh 110, 111, 112, 113; KM 7; Fr 15; S 3858A). *First and third once cleaned, all with heavy hairlines and surface marks, some scuffing, second and fourth very fine, the others good fine or better.* (4) £750-950

Calendar year mintages 2,814,000; 1,815,000; 1,478,000 respectively, all include shield reverse design pieces. 1874 mintage = 1,899,000 presumably St George reverse as there were no shield sovereigns of Sydney dated 1874.



2122 *G* Victoria, Gold Sovereigns (4), 1875S, 1876S, 1879S, 1880S, young head of third style left, letter S below, quite low S on fourth coin, w.w. buried in truncation in relief, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with long tail, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, last stop distant (Bentley 678, 679, 680, 681; McD 150, 152, 156, 158; QM 82, 84, 88, 91; Marsh 114, 115, 116, 117; KM 7; Fr 15; S 3858A). *Last two previously cleaned, all with heavy surface marks and hairlines, first two good fine or better, the third about very fine, the last fair to fine with a weak legend.* (4) £750-950

Calendar year mintages 1875=2,122,000; 1879=1,366,000; 1880=1,459,000, all include shield reverse design pieces. 1876=1,613,000 presumably St George reverse as there are no shield type sovereigns of Sydney dated 1874. There are no St George reverse Sydney mint Sovereigns dated 1877 or 1878.



2123 *G* Victoria, Gold Sovereigns (3), 1881S, without B.P. in exergue, 1882S, 1883S, with B.P., all short tail variety, young head of third style left, letter S below further from neck, w.w. complete on truncation in relief, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with short tail, date in exergue (Bentley 685, 687, 689; McD 160, 162a, 164; QM 95, 101, 105 R; Marsh 118B, 119, 120; KM 7; Fr 15; 3858D, 3858E). *All with scuffs, hairlines and surface marks, first with nick by Queen's eye and one by horse head, otherwise about very fine, the second with scratch on cheek and two reverse rim nicks, otherwise very fine, the third with dark patch on reverse, two obverse rim nicks, otherwise good very fine.* (3) £600-800

Calendar year mintages 1,459,000; 1,298,000; 1,108,000 respectively, includes shield reverse design pieces



2124 *g* Victoria, Gold Sovereigns (3), 1884S, 1885S, 1887S, short tail with BP variety, second young head of third style left, letter S below, higher on first coin, w.w. complete truncation in relief, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with short tail, date in exergue, BP with indistinct stops (Bentley 690, 691, 693; McD 166, 168, 172; QM 109, 112, 118; Marsh 121, 122, 124; KM 7; Fr 15; S 3858E). All with scuffs and surface marks, first about very fine, the second very fine, the third good very fine. (3) £650-850

Calendar year mintages 1,595,000; 1,486,000; 1,000,000 respectively, includes shield reverse design pieces.

This 1885 reverse die has a different treatment to the 1884 in the preceding lot, the thin strand spur of hair halfway up the tail is angled more outward with a thin short strand above it, unlike the 1884 which is less angled and a mere stump of hair above. The tail terminates in three strands of hair at the bottom and to the left of this is a strand of shorter hair and folded towards the three strands at termination. This 1887 reverse has the same tail arrangement as the 1884.

One of only two gaps in the date run of the Hemisphere Collection is the 1886 S St George reverse, this gap remained as the collector was oblivious to one existing in preparing a want list for the collection. The other gap is the exceedingly rare 1920 Sydney mint piece. A total of 26,929,000 Sovereigns emerged from the Sydney mint dated from 1871 to 1887 with the Young head obverse be they shield or St George reverse pieces.

Victoria Jubilee Type Sovereigns of the Sydney Mint

For further reading about this issue from the Sydney Mint please see the Bentley Collection Special Edition Catalogue, page 347



2125 *g* Victoria, Gold Sovereigns (4), 1887S, first legend with G: further from crown, larger initials J.E.B. fully on larger truncation in a straight line, hooked J with large stops, B.P. in exergue, 1888S, 1889S, 1890S, second legend with G: closer to crown, J.E.B. initials with angled J, Jubilee crowned bust left, VICTORIA D:G: BRITT: REG: F: D:, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, with helmet streamer, horse with short tail, broken lance on groundline to left, S mintmark at centre of ground, wwp in relief under lance, date in exergue, tiny B.P. without final stop at upper right (Bentley 697, 700, 702, 704; McD 174, 176c, 178a, 180a; QM -, 132, -, 140-1; cf Marsh 138A, 139, 140, 141; KM 10; Fr 19; S 3868). All with light scratches, digs and nicks, heavy scuffs and surface marks, first good fine, the second very fine, the third about extremely fine with a die flaw, the last with some deposits of old sellotape residue, very fine. (4) £800-1000

Calendar year mintages 1,002,000; 2,187,000; 3,262,000; 2,808,000 respectively



2126 *g* Victoria, Gold Sovereigns (3), 1891S, 1892S, 1893S, long horse tail, Jubilee crowned bust left, J.E.B. fully on truncation with right-angled J, second type legend, light die flaws in Queen's name, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, helmet streamer consists of longer strands, horse with long tail, different strand arrangement, S mintmark at centre of ground, date in exergue, tiny complete B.P. to upper right, second coin with latter stop very weak (Bentley 706, 707, 708; McD 182, 184, 186; QM 143, 146, 148-9; Marsh 142, 143, 144; KM 10; Fr 19; S 3868C). All generally scuffed with surface marks and hairlines, very fine to good very fine, first a little better. (3) £600-800

Calendar year mintages 2,596,000; 2,837,000; 1,498,000 respectively

The legend type from 1891-1893 is always of the second repositioned type. The Jubilee head at Sydney and Melbourne both occur dated 1893, whereas at London it does not, having swapped to the new old head design entirely. The Colonial Branch mints in Australia did not receive their old head dies until much later than the local demand dictated for the striking of gold. Therefore these two mints carried on with the Jubilee head production in 1893. At Sydney there were more Jubilee head pieces dated 1893 than the new old head pieces. It was the other way around for these types at Melbourne. A total of 16,190,000 Jubilee type Sovereigns emanated from the Sydney mint dated 1887-1893 for Queen Victoria.

Victoria Old Head Type Sovereigns of the Sydney Mint

For further reading about this issue from the Sydney Mint please see the Bentley Collection Special Edition Catalogue, page 352



2127 *g* **Victoria, Gold Sovereigns (3), 1893S, 1894S, 1895S,** engraved by Thomas Brock, old veiled bust left, T.B. below, VICTORIA D:G: BRITT: REG: F: D: IND: IMP:, toothed border surrounding, rev struck en médaille, engraved after Benedetto Pistrucci, St George slaying dragon with sword, three strand streamer on helmet, horse with long tail, three strand end to tail, two spurs of extra hair on curve of tail, dragon with four claws on each arm, broken lance on groundline to left, S mintmark at base of ground, WWP in relief under lance, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim (Bentley 709, 710, 711; McD 189, 191, 193; QM 151, 153, 155; Marsh 162, 163, 164; KM 13; Fr 23; S 3877). All with heavy scuffs, surface marks and hairlines, first with scratch on cheek, bold very fine, the second with some short scratches on the reverse around horse and on drapery, edge nick, otherwise good very fine, the third about extremely fine. (3)

£550-650

Calendar year mintages 1,346,000; 3,067,000; 2,758,000 respectively

The first coin shares the same reverse die as the Jubilee head issue and is therefore technically a mule and was produced in a smaller number than the earlier Jubilee issue.



2128 *g* **Victoria, Gold Sovereigns (3), 1896S, 1897S, 1898S,** old veiled bust left, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with long tail, S mintmark on ground, date in exergue (Bentley 712, 713, 714; McD 195, 197, 199; QM 158, 161, 163; Marsh 165, 166, 167; KM 13; Fr 23; S 3877). All with heavy scuffs, surface marks and hairlines, first about extremely fine, the second with short scratch under chin and a further one under horse tail, about very fine, the third once cleaned, good fine / about very fine. (3)

£550-650

Calendar year mintages 2,544,000; 2,532,000; 2,548,000 respectively



2129 *g* **Victoria, Gold Sovereigns (3), 1899S, 1900S, 1901S,** old veiled bust left, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with long tail, S mintmark on ground, date in exergue (Bentley 715, 716, 717; McD 201, 204, 207; QM 165, 168, 171; Marsh 168, 169, 170; KM 13; Fr 23; S 3877). First two once cleaned, all with scuffs, surface marks and hairlines, first about extremely fine, the second scratched in obverse field near chin, otherwise very fine, the third with dig by mouth on cheek and other digs by lettering, good fine / about very fine. (3)

£550-650

Calendar year mintages 3,259,000; 3,586,000; 3,012,000 respectively, 1900 marks the highest output for the old head Sydney Sovereign

The total output of the Sydney mint for older veiled bust Queen Victoria Sovereigns dated 1893-1901 = 24,652,000 pieces

The total output of the Sydney mint in the reign of Queen Victoria from 1855-1901 = 93,638,500 pieces

Edward VII Sovereigns of the Sydney Mint



2130 *G* **Edward VII (1901-1910)**, Gold Sovereigns (3), 1902S, 1903S, 1904S, Sydney mint, engraved by George William De Saulles, bare head facing right, des. below, toothed border and raised rim, EDWARDVS VII D: G: BRITT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, rev struck en médaille, engraved after Benedetto Pistrucci, St George slaying dragon with sword, cloak with complete hemline, two stand helmet streamer, horse with long tail, ending in three strands, with one spur higher up at curve, broken lance on groundline to left, WWP in relief under lance, S mintmark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim (Bentley 718, 719, 720; McD 210, 213, 216; cf. QM 178, 179, 180; KM 15; Fr 32; Marsh 204, 205, 206; S 3973). *Scuffed with surface marks and hairlines, each with a scratch on neck, otherwise first very fine, the second with nicks in fields, extremely fine, the third similar, good very fine.* (3) £550-650

Calendar year mintages 2,813,000; 2,806,000; 2,986,000 respectively



2131 *G* **Edward VII**, Gold Sovereigns (3), 1905S, 1906S, 1907S, bare head facing right, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, S mintmark on ground, date in exergue (Bentley 721, 722, 723; McD 219, 222, 225; QM 181, 182, 183; KM 15; Fr 32; Marsh 207, 208, 209; S 3973). *All with surface marks and hairlines, first with nicks on bust, about extremely fine, the second extremely fine, the third with scratch on cheek, extremely fine.* (3) £550-650

Calendar year mintages 2,778,000; 2,792,000; 2,539,000 respectively



2132 *G* **Edward VII**, Gold Sovereigns (3), 1908S, 1909S, 1910S, bare head facing right, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, S mintmark on ground, date in exergue (Bentley 724, 725, 726; McD 228, 231, 234; QM 184, 185, 186; KM 15; Fr 32; Marsh 210, 211, 212; S 3973). *All with surface marks and hairlines, first with reverse rim nick, about extremely fine, the second with bagmarks and nicks on bust, extremely fine, the third with scratch in beard, good very fine.* (3) £550-650

Calendar year mintages 2,017,000; 2,057,000; 2,135,000 respectively

The total output of the Sydney mint for Edward VII Sovereigns dated from 1902-1910 = 22,923,000 pieces

George V Sovereigns of the Sydney Mint



2133 *G* George V (1910-1936), Gold Sovereigns (3), 1911S, 1912S, 1913S, Sydney mint, designed by Edgar Bertram Mackennal, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, toothed border and raised rim, GEORGIVS V D: G: BRITT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, rev struck en médaille, engraved after Benedetto Pistrucci, St George slaying dragon with sword, helmet with three strand streamer, horse with long tail, ending in three strands, with one spur higher up at curve, broken lance on groundline to left, WWP in relief under lance, S mintmark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim (Bentley 727, 728, 729; McD 237, 240, 243; QM 187, 188, 189; KM 29; Fr 38; Marsh 271, 272, 273; S 4003). All with nicks and bagmarks, third with dig in front of mouth, all generally extremely fine. (3) £600-800

Calendar year mintages 2,519,000; 2,227,000; 2,249,000 respectively



2134 *G* George V, Gold Sovereigns (3), 1914S, 1915S, 1916S, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, S mintmark on ground, date in exergue (Bentley 730, 731, 732; McD 246, 249, 252; QM 190, 191, 192; KM 29; Fr 38; Marsh 274, 275, 276; S 4003). All with nicks and bagmarks, first with dig in front of mouth and one behind head, extremely fine, the second with nicks on neck and beard, otherwise good extremely fine, the third with nicks in field by nose, good extremely fine. (3) £600-800

Calendar year mintages 1,774,000; 1,346,000; 1,242,000 respectively



2135 *G* George V, Gold Sovereigns (4), 1917S, 1918S, 1919S, 1925S, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, S mintmark on ground, date in exergue (Bentley 733, 734, 735, 741; McD 255, 258, 261, 279; QM 193, 194, 195, 211; KM 29; Fr 38; Marsh 277, 278, 279, 285; S 4003). All scuffed with surface marks and hairlines, generally very fine to good very fine, last a little better. (4) £750-850

Calendar year mintages 1,666,000; 3,716,000; 1,835,000; 5,632,000 respectively. The penultimate year 1925 mintage is the highest calendar year output ever from the Sydney mint for a gold Sovereign. There is no example of the extremely rare 1920 Sydney mint Sovereign in the Hemisphere Collection.

The Very Rare 1921 Sydney Sovereign



2136 *g* **George V**, Gold Sovereign, 1921S, bare head left, b.m. on truncation, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, S mintmark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley 737; McD 267; QM 199 S; KM 29; Fr 38; Marsh 281 R3; S 4003). *Some bagmarks and nicks, otherwise extremely fine and very rare.* £1200-1500

Calendar year mintage 839,000. The prevailing gold price continues to fluctuate in this period keeping mintages low from 1920-1924 inclusive.

The Extremely Rare 1922 Sydney Sovereign



2137 *g* **George V**, Gold Sovereign, 1922S, bare head left, b.m. on truncation, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, S mintmark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley 738; McD 270; cf QM.202; KM 29; Fr 38; Marsh 282 R3; S 4003). *Some tiny nicks on beard and neck and obverse field, tiny black spot above ear, tiny scratch between horse's front legs, otherwise extremely fine, on par with the recent Bentley example and extremely rare.* £12,000-15,000

Calendar year mintage 578,000.

Of all the George V Sovereigns that emanated from the Sydney mint, 1922 is considered the third hardest date to find and is extremely rare. The Quartermaster Collection sold in 2009 only contained an example of the even rarer specimen proof striking.

The Extremely Rare 1923 Sydney Sovereign



2138 G **George V, Gold Sovereign, 1923S**, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop absent, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, S mintmark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right (cf Bentley 739; McD 273; cf QM.205; KM 29; Fr 38; Marsh 283 R4; S 4003). *Some nicks on obverse, otherwise good extremely fine, a superb example, finer than the recent George Collection example, extremely rare.* £10,000-12,000

Calendar year mintage 416,000

The Quartermaster Collection sold in 2009 and the more recent Bentley Collection only had an example of the even rarer specimen proof striking for 1923.

The Rare 1924 Sydney Sovereign



2139 G **George V, Gold Sovereign, 1924S**, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop weak and smaller, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, S mintmark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley 740; McD 276; QM 208 S; KM 29; Fr 38; Marsh 284 R3; S 4003). *Struck from quite yellow gold, some ghosting, perhaps once cleaned, surface marks, about extremely fine, reverse better, very rare.* £1200-1500

Calendar year mintage 394,000

The Extremely Rare 1926 Sydney Currency Sovereign



2140 g George V, Gold Sovereign, 1926S, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, S mintmark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley 742; McD 282; QM 214 R3; KM 29; Fr 38; Marsh 286 R4; S 4003). Some light bagmarks and nicks around neck, otherwise good extremely fine, appears to be finer and less marked than the recent George Collection example, extremely rare. £18,000-22,000

Calendar year mintage 1,031,050

The year 1926 marks the closure of the Sydney branch mint and this, the final dated gold coin, is a rarity and the second hardest to acquire. The Sydney mint closed on 31 December 1926 leaving just the accounts office open to finalise all business by the end of January 1927.

The total mintage of George V Sydney mint coins dated from 1911 to 1926 = 27,824,050 pieces.

The total output of the Sydney mint from 1855 till 1926 for the gold Sovereign = 144,435,550 pieces; this is 50,000 higher than the numbers quoted for each individual year and can only be accounted for as extra coins sent for assay and pyx trial the breakdown of quantity by date being unknown.

Melbourne Mint

Melbourne mint opens in William Street on 12 June 1872

Last date for Melbourne Sovereigns 1931

For further reading please see Bentley Collection Special Edition Catalogue, page 366



2141 g Victoria (1837-1901), Gold Sovereign, 1872M, engraved after William Wyon, third young head style left, with double fillet, ww incuse without stops on truncation date below, toothed border and raised rim both sides, VICTORIA DEI GRATIA, rev struck with inverted die axis, engraved after Jean Baptiste Merlen, crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter M below, emblems below (Bentley 758; McD 120; QM 48; Marsh 59 R; KM 6; Fr 12; S 3854). Some light surface marks, with underlying brilliance, a couple of rim nicks, otherwise extremely fine and rare. £400-600

Calendar year mintage 748,180, includes St George reverse design and 180 pieces sent for pyx trial.
There were no shield Sovereigns issued from Melbourne in the following year 1873.

2142 g Victoria, Gold Sovereign, 1874M, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, rev crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter M below, emblems below (Bentley 747; McD 122; QM 51; Marsh 59 R; KM 6; Fr 12; S 3854). Light surface marks, toned, about extremely fine. £350-450

Calendar year mintage 1,373,000, includes St George reverse design, 298 of this total went for pyx trial.
There were no shield Sovereigns issued from Melbourne from 1875-1879 inclusive.

The Extremely Rare 1880M shield Sovereign



2143 G Victoria, Gold Sovereign, 1880M, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, rev crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter M below, emblems below (Bentley 749; McD 128; QM 59 R3; Marsh 61 R2; KM 6; Fr 12; S 3854). Scuffed with heavy surface marks, two scratches on neck, otherwise with underlying brilliance, about extremely fine, very rare. £2000-2500

Calendar year mintage 3,052,800, includes St George reverse design, 654 of this total went for pyx trial. This is the third most difficult to acquire Victorian shield reverse for the Melbourne mint, though 1880 represented the highest calendar year mintage of the type. This was the first year the Melbourne mint had struck shield reverse type Sovereigns in six years and they were no doubt in demand and must have had a very high attrition rate as the survival rate is very low today.

A New Style Portrait at the Melbourne Mint

From 1881 to 1887 the shield reverse with the fourth bust style comes into use at Melbourne just like at Sydney. The main defining characteristics are the much higher hairline, which if extended up would meet the right side of the letter A in the legend. Behind the ear there is a distinctly longer curling strand of hair compared to those either side of it. The hair at the rear of the hair bun is perhaps a little more finely engraved in the strands and there is a slightly larger gap from the G of legend to the hair bun. Additionally the tip of the neck at the front is more sharply pointed than the previous busts.



2144 G Victoria, Gold Sovereign, 1881M, fourth young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation which is more truncated with a pointed tip at front, hair behind ear with longer strand, hairline higher on forehead, date below, rev crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter M below, right foot near to ribbon, emblems below (Bentley 750; McD 130; QM 61 S; Marsh 62 R; KM 6; Fr 12; S 3854A). Scuffed with surface marks, scratch near tip of truncation, toned, bold very fine. £250-350

Calendar year mintage 2,324,800, includes St George reverse design, 503 of this total went for pyx trial



2145 G Victoria, Gold Sovereign, 1882M, fourth young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, rev crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter M below, emblems below (Bentley 751; McD 132; QM 63 S; Marsh 63; KM 6; Fr 12; S 3854A). Heavy surface marks and scuffs, with underlying brilliance, good very fine. £300-400

Calendar year mintage 371,400 of which 531 went for pyx trial



2146 G Victoria, Gold Sovereign, 1883M, fourth young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, rev crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter M below, left foot touches ribbon, emblems below (Bentley 752; McD 134; QM 65 R2; Marsh 64 R2; KM 6; Fr 12; S 3854A). Scuffed, heavy surface marks with some underlying brilliance, some nicks on neck, otherwise extremely fine. £500-700

Calendar year mintage 427,000 of which 450 went for pyx trial



2147



2148



2148



2147 G Victoria, Gold Sovereign, 1884M, fourth young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, rev crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter M below, emblems below (Bentley 753; McD 136; QM 67; Marsh 65; KM 6; Fr 12; S 3854A). Scuffed with surface marks, reverse rim nick, otherwise good very fine. £300-400

Calendar year mintage 2,942,000, includes St George reverse design, 630 of this total went for pyx trial

2148 G Victoria, Gold Sovereign, 1885M, fourth young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, rev crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter M below, emblems below (Bentley 755; McD 138; QM 69; Marsh 66; KM 6; Fr 12; S 3854A). Heavy surface marks and scuffs, reverse rim nick, about very fine. £200-300

Calendar year mintage 2,966,500, includes St George reverse design, 643 of this total went for pyx trial

The Extremely Rare 1886M Shield Sovereign



2149 G Victoria, Gold Sovereign, 1886M, fourth young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, rev crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter M below, emblems below (Bentley 756; McD 140; QM 71 R4; Marsh 67 R3; KM 6; Fr 12; S 3854A). Surface marks and underlying brilliance, otherwise very fine and extremely rare. £3000-4000

Calendar year mintage 2,901,500, includes St George reverse design, 631 of this total went for pyx trial. This is the second most difficult to acquire Victorian shield reverse for the Melbourne mint as the penultimate issue of this type. Again the calendar year mintage is on the high side, but the survival rate is very low, hence the rarity today.

The Extremely Rare 1887M Shield Sovereign



2150 G Victoria, Gold Sovereign, 1887M, fourth young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, rev crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter M below, emblems below (Bentley 757; McD 142; QM 73 R3; Marsh 68 R3; KM 6; Fr 12; S 3854A). Heavy surface marks, obverse rim nick, with underlying brilliance, otherwise extremely fine and extremely rare. £2500-3000

Calendar year mintage 1,916,424, includes St George reverse design, 624 of this total (probably all shield reverses) went for pyx trial

This is the hardest to find Victorian shield reverse for the Melbourne mint, as it was the final issue before the Jubilee issue of 1887. The Australian mints continued with the shield reverse long after the London Royal Mint ceased, as they were more readily accepted in trade with Asia over the St George reverse pieces.

Melbourne Mint Imperial Type Victoria Young Head Sovereigns, St George and Dragon Reverse
For further reading on the St George and dragon reverse used at the Melbourne please see the Bentley Collection Special Edition Catalogue, page 373



2151 G Victoria, Gold Sovereigns (5), 1872M, 1873M, 1874M, 1875M, 1876M, young head of third style left, letter M below, first coin with higher M, ww buried in truncation in relief, VICTORIA D: G: BRITANNIAR: REG: F: D:, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley 758, 760, 761, 763, 764; McD 145, 147, 149, 151a, 153; QM 77 R2, 79 R2, 81 R, 83, 85; Marsh 94, 95, 96, 97, 98; KM 7; Fr 16; S 3857). All with heavy scuffs and surface marks, second with rim nicks both sides, generally good fine to about very fine. (5) £900-1100

Calendar year mintages 748,180; 752,000; 1,373,000; 1,888,000; 2,124,000 respectively. First and third figures also include shield reverse pieces, others presumably include St George reverse pieces and those that were sent for pyx trial. The pyx figures were 180; 199; 298; 405 and 445 respectively.



2152 G Victoria, Gold Sovereigns (5), 1877M, 1878M, 1879M, 1880M, 1881M, young head of third style left, letter M below near neck, ww buried in truncation in relief, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley 765, 766, 767, 770, 772; McD 154, 155, 157, 159, 159a; QM 86 R, 87 R, 90, 94, -; Marsh 99, 100, 101, 102, 103; KM 7; Fr 16; S 3857). All with heavy scuffs and surface marks, first with long die flaw down centre of bust to tip of truncation, about very fine, the second with scratches above nose and two other scratches on the reverse, otherwise very fine, the third with scratch over horse head, otherwise good fine, the fourth with reverse rim nick, very fine, the last with obverse rim bruise, good fine. (5) £900-1100

Calendar year mintages 1,487,000; 2,171,000; 2,740,000; 3,052,800; 2,324,800; respectively, the first three presumably all St George reverse, the latter two also include shield reverse pieces and those that were sent for pyx trial. The pyx figures were 316; 457; 594; 654 and 503 respectively.



2153 G Victoria, Gold Sovereigns (5), 1882M, 1883M, 1885M, 1886M, 1887M, second young head of third style left, letter M below lower down, w.w. complete on truncation in relief with stops, some letters in legend doubled, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with short tail, one thicker spur made up of multiple strands of hair halfway up tail, date in exergue, incomplete BP, stops absent (Bentley 776, 777, 782, 785, 786; McD 163b, 165a, 169a, 171, 173; QM 104 R, 107, 114 R, 117, 119; Marsh 104, 105, 107, 108, 109; KM 7; Fr 16; S 3857C). All with heavy surface marks and hairlines, first with digs and scratches on neck under ear, bold fine, the second with reverse rim nick, very fine, the third once cleaned, very fine, the fourth with digs on neck and in field behind, very fine, the last with rim nick each side, otherwise good very fine. (5) £900-1100

Calendar year mintages 2,093,850; 1,623,000; 2,966,500; 2,901,500; 1,916,424 respectively, all figures also include shield reverse pieces and pieces sent for pyx trial. The pyx figures were 531; 450; 643; 631 and 624 respectively the latter figure thought to be all shield reverses for 1887.



2154 G Victoria, Gold Sovereign, 1884M, young head of third style left, letter M below near neck, ww buried in truncation in relief, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, short tail to horse, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley 780; McD 167a; QM 110; Marsh 106; KM 7; Fr 16; S 3857B). Heavy surface marks and scuffs, two reverse rim nicks, otherwise good fine. £180-220

Calendar year mintage 2,942,000 which includes shield reverse design pieces, 630 of this total went for pyx trial. This coin is another version of the short tail type, the tail is well defined with only one thin spur of hair in the upper curve. The total mintage for all the young head issue of the Melbourne mint = 33,909,834 pieces

Victoria Jubilee Type Sovereigns of the Melbourne Mint

For further reading about this issue from the Melbourne Mint please see the Bentley Collection Special Edition Catalogue, page 383



2155 *G* **Victoria**, Gold Sovereign, 1887M, Jubilee crowned bust left, small J.E.B. fully on deep truncation with stops in straight line, with a hooked J, necklace of 13 pearls, first type legend further from crown, cross on crown crosses linear circle, VICTORIA D:G: BRITT: REG: F: D:, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, helmet with streamer, horse with short tail, two small spurs of extra hair at upper curve, M mintmark at centre of ground, date in exergue, B.P. complete to upper right (Bentley 788; McD 175; QM 126; Marsh 131A R; KM 10; Fr 20; S 3867). *Heavy surface marks and scuffs, small scratches to right of crown and near horse tail, otherwise about very fine and rare.* £300-400

Calendar year mintage 940,000 which includes all 1887 Jubilee varieties. The first legend variety always has the bust with a bigger truncated portion displaying the engraver initials than the second legend variety. At Melbourne mint this first legend type occurs with either the initials small with a hooked J, or more regular size with the angled J in J.E.B as in the following lot, 2156.



2156 *G* **Victoria**, Gold Sovereign, 1887M, Jubilee style bust left, J.E.B. fully on deeper truncation with an angled J, first type legend further from crown, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with short tail, M mintmark at centre of ground, date in exergue, B.P. to upper right (Bentley 789; McD 175a; QM 127; Marsh 131; KM 10; Fr 20; S 3867A). *Once cleaned, heavy surface marks and scuffs, otherwise about very fine.* £200-300

Calendar year mintage 940,000 which includes all 1887 Jubilee varieties. At Melbourne mint this first legend type occurs with either the initials small with a hooked J as in the preceding lot, 2155; or more regular size with the angled J in J.E.B.



2157 *G* **Victoria**, Gold Sovereigns (3), 1888M, 1889M, 1890M, Jubilee style bust left, J.E.B. on edge of truncation with an angled J, the letters intrude the field, second type legend with G: closer to crown, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with short tail, M mintmark at centre of ground, date in exergue, B.P to upper right, no final stop (Bentley 795, 797, 799; McD 177a, 179a, 181; QM 134, 137-8, 142; Marsh 132, 133, 134; KM 10; Fr 20; S 3867B). *All with heavy scuffs and surface marks, first once cleaned with rim nicks both sides, otherwise very fine, the others about very fine. (3)* £550-650

Calendar year mintages 2,830,000; 2,732,000; 2,473,000 respectively including those that were sent for pyx trial. The pyx figures were 612; 590; and 537 respectively.



2158 g Victoria, Gold Sovereigns (4), 1891M (2), 1892M, 1893M, long tail reverse, Jubilee style bust left, second type legend, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, longer individual strands in helmet streamer, heavier engraved rendition of cape, horse with long tail, with one light spur of extra hair at upper curve, dragon with four curved claws to each arm, M mintmark at centre of ground, date in exergue, B.P. to upper right (Bentley 800, 802, 803; McD 183a, 185, 188; QM 145, 147, 150; Marsh 135, 136, 137; KM 10; Fr 20; S 3867C). All with heavy scuffs and surface marks, third with reverse rim nick and scratch by date, otherwise very fine, the others about very fine. (4) £700-900

Calendar year mintages 2,749,000; 3,488,000; 1,649,000 respectively including those that were sent for pyx trial. The pyx figures were 592; 750; and 352 respectively. The only duplicate coins in the Hemisphere Collection are the two examples of the 1891M Sovereign included in this lot and the two 1843 "narrow shield" Sovereigns.

1892 is the highest calendar year output for the Melbourne mint in the Jubilee issue. The total mintage output for the Jubilee bust Victoria issue = 16,864,785 pieces.

Victoria Old Head Type Sovereigns of the Melbourne Mint

For further reading about this issue from the Melbourne Mint please see the Bentley Collection Special Edition Catalogue, page 390



2159 g Victoria (1837-1901), Gold Sovereigns (3), 1893M, 1894M, 1895M, Melbourne branch mint, engraved by Thomas Brock, old veiled bust left, T.B. below, VICTORIA D:G: BRITT: REG: F: D: IND: IMP:, toothed border surrounding, rev struck en médaille, engraved after Benedetto Pistrucci, St George slaying dragon with sword, three strand streamer on helmet, horse with long tail, three strand end to tail, one spur of extra hair on curve of tail, dragon with four claws on each arm, broken lance on groundline to left, WWP in relief under lance, M mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim (Bentley 804, 805, 806; McD 190, 192, 194; QM 152, 154, 155; Marsh 153, 154, 155; KM 13; Fr 24; S 3875). All with heavy scuffs and surface marks, generally about very fine. (3) £550-650

Calendar year mintages 1,914,000; 4,166,000; 4,165,000 respectively including those that were sent for pyx trial. The pyx figures were 400; 874; and 869 respectively.

The 1893M coin shares the same reverse die as the Jubilee head issue and is technically a mule.



2160 g Victoria, Gold Sovereigns (3), 1896M, 1897M, 1898M, old veiled bust left, T.B. below, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, M mintmark at centre of ground, date in exergue (Bentley 807, 808, 809; McD 196, 198, 200; QM 159, 162, 164; Marsh 156, 157, 158; KM 13; Fr 24; S 3875). All with heavy scuffs and surface marks, first about very fine, the second very fine, the third about extremely fine. (3) £550-650

Calendar year mintages 4,456,000; 5,129,500; 5,508,000 respectively including those that were sent for pyx trial. The pyx figures were 932; 1065; and 1138 respectively.



2161 *g* **Victoria, Gold Sovereigns (3), 1899M, 1900M, 1901M**, old veiled bust left, T.B. below, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, M mintmark at centre of ground, date in exergue (Bentley 811, 812, 813; McD 202, 205, 208; QM 166, 169, 172; Marsh 159, 160, 172; KM 13; Fr 24; S 3875). Last two with scuffs and surface marks, first with a few nicks on bust and rim, otherwise extremely fine, the second with scratch in obverse field and reverse rim nick, otherwise about extremely fine, the third with scratch on face and another between legs of the horse, otherwise very fine. (3) £550-650

Calendar year mintages 5,578,000; 4,305,000; 3,986,000 respectively including those that were sent for pyx trial. The pyx figures were 1157; 904; and 1701 respectively.

The 1899M represents the highest calendar year output of an old head design at the Melbourne mint. In fact it is the highest output ever from the Melbourne mint for a gold Sovereign from 1872-1931.

The total output of old veiled bust Victoria Sovereigns at Melbourne = 39,216,940 pieces
The total output of Victorian Sovereigns at the Melbourne Mint = 89,991,559 pieces

Melbourne Mint Edward VII Sovereigns



2162 *g* **Edward VII (1901-1910), Gold Sovereigns (3), 1902M, 1903M, 1904M**, Melbourne mint, engraved by George William De Saulles, bare head facing right, des. below, toothed border and raised rim, EDWARDVS VII D: G: BRIT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, rev struck en médaille, engraved after Benedetto Pistrucci, St George slaying dragon with sword, cloak with practically complete hemline, two thick stand helmet streamer, horse with long tail, ending in three strands, with one spur higher up at curve, broken lance on groundline to left, WWP in relief under lance, M mintmark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim (Bentley 814, 815, 816; McD 211, 214, 217; QM 178, 179, 180; KM 15; Fr 33; Marsh 186, 187, 188; S 3971). All with heavy scuffs and surface marks, first with scratch on cheek, about very fine, the second about extremely fine, the third very fine. (3) £550-650

Calendar year mintages 4,267,157; 3,521,780; 3,743,897 respectively including those that were sent for pyx trial. The pyx figures were 2157; 1780; and 1897 respectively.

The Coronation year marks the highest calendar year mintage at the Melbourne mint in the reign of King Edward VII.



2163 *g* **Edward VII, Gold Sovereigns (3), 1905M, 1906M, 1907M**, bare head facing right, des. below, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, M mintmark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley 817, 818, 819; McD 220, 223, 226; QM 181, 182, 183; KM 15; Fr.33; Marsh 189, 190, 191; S 3971). All with heavy scuffs and surface marks, first with obverse rim nick, about extremely fine, the second with reverse rim nick, otherwise extremely fine, the third with wispy scratches and nicks on neck and behind head, otherwise extremely fine. (3) £650-850

Calendar year mintages 3,633,838; 3,657,838; 3,332,691 respectively including those that were sent for pyx trial. The pyx figures were 1838; 1853; and 1691 respectively.



2164 g **Edward VII**, Gold Sovereigns (3), 1908M, 1909M, 1910M, bare head facing right, des. below, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, M mintmark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley 820, 821, 822; McD 229, 232, 235; QM 184, 185, 186; KM 15; Fr.33; Marsh 192, 193, 194; S 3971). All with scuffs and surface marks, first with dig over streamer on helmet, scratch on temple of Kings head, bold very fine, the second with nick in front of chin and reverse rim nick, otherwise extremely fine, the third possibly once mounted with heavier surface marks, otherwise good fine. (3) £550-650

Calendar year mintages 3,080,148; 3,029,538; 3,054,547 respectively including those that were sent for pyx trial. The pyx figures were 1648; 1538; and 1547 respectively.

The total mintage of Sovereigns at the Melbourne mint in the reign of Edward VII dated 1902 to 1910 = 31,321,449 pieces.

Melbourne Mint George V Sovereigns



2165 g **George V (1910-1936)**, Gold Sovereigns (3), 1911M, 1912M, 1913M, Melbourne mint, designed by Edgar Bertram Mackennal, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, toothed border and raised rim, GEORGIVS V D: G: BRITT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, rev struck en médaille, engraved after Benedetto Pistrucci, St George slaying dragon with sword, helmet with three strand streamer, horse with long tail, broken lance on groundline to left, WWP in relief under lance, M mintmark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim (Bentley 823, 825, 826; McD 238, 241, 244; QM 187, 188, 189; KM 29; Fr 39; Marsh 229, 230, 231; S 3999). All with light surface marks and hairlines, the second with reverse rim nick, the third with necks on neck and bagmarks, otherwise all generally extremely fine. (3) £600-800

Calendar year mintages 2,851,451; 2,469,257; 2,323,180 respectively including those that were sent for pyx trial. The pyx figures were 1451; 1257; and 1180 respectively.



2166 g **George V**, Gold Sovereigns (3), 1914M, 1915M, 1916M, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, M mintmark on ground, date in exergue (Bentley 827, 828, 829; McD 247, 250, 253; QM 190, 191, 192; KM 29; Fr 39; Marsh 232, 233, 234; S 3999). All with light surface marks and hairlines, second with nick under chin in field, first extremely fine, the second good very fine, the third good fine. (3) £550-650

Calendar year mintages 2,012,029; 1,637,839; 1,272,634 respectively including those that were sent for pyx trial. The pyx figures were 1029; 839; and 634 respectively.



2167 *g* George V, Gold Sovereigns (3), 1917M, 1918M, 1919M, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, M mintmark on ground, date in exergue (Bentley 830, 831, 832; McD 256, 259, 262; QM 193, 194, 195; KM 29; Fr 39; Marsh 235, 236, 237; S 3999). All with light bagmarks, first with scratch over nose and obverse rim nicks, generally about extremely fine. (3) £600-800

Calendar year mintages 934,469; 4,909,493; 514,257 respectively including those that were sent for pyx trial. The pyx figures were 469; 2493; and 257 respectively.

The Very Rare 1920 Melbourne Mint George V Sovereign



2168 *g* George V, Gold Sovereign, 1920M, bare head left, engraved by Edgar Bertram MacKennal, B.M. on truncation, legend reads GEORGIVS V D: G: BRITT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, engraved after Benedetto Pistrucci, M mintmark on ground, date in exergue, light die flaw from date figures to ground line, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley 833; McD 265; QM 197 R; KM 29; Fr 39; Marsh 238 R2; S 3999). With a hint of ghosting, once cleaned, nick in field under chin, otherwise extremely fine, compares well and perhaps less marked than the recent George Collection example, very rare. £3000-3500

Calendar year mintage 530,266 of which 266 went for pyx trial. The 1920 Melbourne Sovereign was struck in a much smaller quantity than the years in the previous decade. This was because the price of gold bullion rose to a price above the face value of the Sovereign, as high as 127/4d an ounce as of 5 February 1920 which meant at that time it cost 30/- to mint a 20/- gold coin. Therefore mintage was sporadic throughout the year.

The Extremely Rare 1921 Melbourne Mint George V Sovereign



2169 *g* George V, Gold Sovereign, 1921M, bare head left, engraved by Edgar Bertram MacKennal, B.M. on truncation, legend reads GEORGIVS V D: G: BRITT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, engraved after Benedetto Pistrucci, M mintmark on ground, date in exergue, light die flaw from date figures to ground line, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley 834; McD 268; QM 200 R3; KM 29; Fr 39; Marsh 239 R3; S 3999). Light surface marks, nicks on neck, otherwise good extremely fine and finer than the recent George Collection example, extremely rare. £10,000-12,000

Calendar year mintage 240,121 of which 121 went for pyx trial.

The 1921 Melbourne Sovereign is the key date in the 20th Century currency series for this mint. The calendar year mintage is one of the lowest of the 1920s as are other dates before 1925 because of the prevailing fluctuating gold price at that time.

The Very Rare 1922 Melbourne Mint George V Sovereign



2170 G **George V, Gold Sovereign, 1922M, bare head left, engraved by Edgar Bertram MacKenna, B.M. on truncation, legend reads GEORGIVS V D: G: BRITT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, engraved after Benedetto Pistrucci, M mintmark on ground, date in exergue, light die flaw from date figures to ground line, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley 835; McD 271; QM 203 R2; KM 29; Fr 39; Marsh 240 R2; S 3999). Nick on forehead with scratch by tip of truncation, further nick on reverse in front of horse's neck, otherwise about extremely fine, similar in grade to the recent George Collection example, very rare.** £7000-9000

Calendar year mintage 608,306 of which 306 went for pyx trial. The prevailing gold price continues to fluctuate in this period keeping mintages low.



2171 G **George V, Gold Sovereigns (4), 1923M, 1924M, 1925M, 1926M, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, M mintmark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley 836, 837, 838, 839; McD 274, 277, 280, 283; QM 206, 209, 212, 215; KM 29; Fr 39; Marsh 241 R, 242 R, 243, 244 R; S 3999). All with light surface marks, the last a little more heavily marked with dig by forehead, first extremely fine, the second about extremely fine, the third good extremely fine, the last very fine. (4)** £800-1000

Calendar year mintages 511,029; 278,140; 3,311,662; 211,107 respectively including those that were sent for pyx trial. The pyx figures were 259; 140; 1662; and 107 respectively.

The 1926M is the lowest calendar year output for the larger bust of George V at the Melbourne mint, however output continued into the calendar year for 1927 to the tune of 310,000 pieces, and as there are no examples known of 1927 dated Sovereigns, these Melbourne mint coins therefore were probably all dated 1926. This explains why the 1926M is not such a rare date as other years with higher calendar year outputs and may have been hoarded in banks. Strangely Marsh lists a 1927M as number 245 rated R2 probably as an assumption of existence as it is certain he never saw an example, and he judged his rarity ratings more on the mintage figures per calendar year rather than truly studying what was in numismatic commerce.

The Rare 1928 Melbourne Mint George V Sovereign



2172 G George V, Gold Sovereign, 1928M, first bare head left, engraved by Edgar Bertram MacKennal, B.M. on truncation, legend reads GEORGIVS V D: G: BRITT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, engraved after Benedetto Pistrucci, M mintmark on ground, date in exergue, broken lance to left on ground line, WWP initials beneath, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley 840; McD 287; QM 218 R; KM 29; Fr 39; Marsh 246 R2; S 3999). *Some bagmarks and nicks with light surface marks, otherwise good extremely fine and rare.* £1500-1800

Calendar year mintage 413,208 of which 208 went for pyx trial. 1928 is the last year the W.W.P. initials appear under the broken lance. These initials are relict from the time of George IV being the Master of the Mint's initials William Wellesley Pole, brother of the Duke of Wellington.

The Rare 1929 Melbourne Mint George V Sovereign



2173 G George V, Gold Sovereign, 1929M, second smaller head left, BM on truncation, no stops, legend reads GEORGIVS V D: G: BRITT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, linear outer circle with grained border teeth compartments and rim both sides, rev slightly smaller design therefore with a deeper exergue, St George slaying dragon with sword, no WWP initials under lance anymore, M mintmark on ground, date in deeper exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley 841; McD 289; QM 220 R; KM 29; Fr 39; Marsh 247 R3; S 4000). *Once cleaned and scuffed with associated surface marks, otherwise extremely fine and rare.* £1500-1800

Calendar year mintage 436,938 of which 219 went for pyx trial. The new second smaller bust is introduced from 1929 with a revised reverse design with a deeper exergue and no initials under the lance.



2174 G George V, Gold Sovereigns (2), 1930M, 1931M, second smaller head left, BM on truncation, rev smaller St George slaying dragon with sword, M mintmark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley 843, 844; McD 291, 293; QM 222, 224; KM 29; Fr 39; Marsh 248 R, 249 R2; S 4000). *First once cleaned, few digs on neck and light surface marks, extremely fine, the second with obverse rim nick and surface marks, short scratch by tip of nose, otherwise good extremely fine. (2)* £400-600

Calendar year mintages 77,588; 57,810 respectively including those sent for pyx trial. The pyx figures were 41 and 31 respectively. As the final gold Sovereign of Melbourne the 1931M has the smallest calendar year output. It is surprisingly not of such rarity today as one would expect, and must have been hoarded as the last issue from the Melbourne mint. The reign of George V accounts for 25,911,039 Sovereigns from 1911 to 1931. The total number of Sovereigns produced at the Melbourne mint in total from 1872 to 1931 was 147,282,731 pieces including all the pieces sent for assay.

Perth Mint

Permission to set up the Perth mint granted 1894
Perth mint Bill through Assembly July 1895
Plans signed off 12 June 1896
Proclamation ratified by Queen Victoria 13 October 1897
Buildings completed 17 October 1898, keys handed over for fit-out November 1898
First Perth mint Sovereign struck 20 June 1899
Last date for Perth Sovereigns 1931
For further reading please Bentley Collection Special Edition Catalogue, page 403



2175 G Victoria (1837-1901), Gold Sovereigns (3), 1899P, 1900P, 1901P, Perth mint, engraved by Thomas Brock, old veiled bust left, t.b. below, VICTORIA D:G: BRITT: REG: F: D: IND: IMP:, toothed border surrounding, rev struck en médaille, engraved after Benedetto Pistrucci, St George slaying dragon with sword, three strand streamer on helmet, horse with long tail, three strand end to tail, one spur of extra hair on curve of tail, dragon with four short curved claws on each arm, broken lance on groundline to left, WWP in relief under lance, P mintmark at bottom of ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley 845, 846, 847; McD 203, 206, 209; QM 167, 170, 173; Marsh 171 R, 172, 173; KM 13; Fr 25; S 3876). All with heavy scuffs and surface marks, first with scratch in field by throat, good fine, the second with deep short scratch by horse tail, bold fine, the third once cleaned, otherwise very fine. (3) £550-650

Calendar year mintages 690,992; 1,886,089; 2,889,333 respectively. Therefore total mintage for Queen Victoria at Perth = 5,466,414 pieces.

Perth Mint Edward VII Sovereigns



2176 G Edward VII (1901-1910), Gold Sovereigns (3), 1902P, 1903P, 1904P, Perth mint, engraved by George William De Saulles, bare head facing right, des. below, toothed border and raised rim, EDWARDVS VII D: G: BRITT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, rev struck en médaille, engraved after Benedetto Pistrucci, St George slaying dragon with sword, cloak with complete hemline, two stand helmet streamer, horse with long tail, ending in three strands, with one spur higher up at curve, broken lance on groundline to left, WWP in relief under lance, P mintmark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley 848, 849, 850; McD 212, 215, 218; QM 178, 179, 180; KM 15; Fr 34; Marsh 195, 196, 197; S 3972). All with heavy scuffs and surface marks, first with dark spots by ear, otherwise very fine, the second with scratch across cheek, very fine, the third with scratch behind head and reverse rim nick, otherwise very fine. (3) £550-650

Calendar year mintages 4,289,122; 4,674,783; 4,506,756 respectively



2177 G Edward VII, Gold Sovereigns (3), 1905P, 1906P, 1907P, bare head facing right, des. below, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, P mintmark on ground, date in exergue (Bentley 851, 852, 853; McD 221, 224, 227; QM 181, 182, 183; KM 15; Fr 34; Marsh 198, 199, 200; S 3972). All with heavy scuffs and surface marks, first with scratch under ear lobe, otherwise good very fine, the second with scratch under truncation, otherwise good very fine, the third with scratch by mouth, otherwise extremely fine. (3) £550-650

Calendar year mintages 4,876,193; 4,829,817; 4,972,289 respectively
The 1907 calendar year represents the pinnacle of Perth mint Sovereign production



2178 *G* Edward VII, Gold Sovereigns (3), 1908P, 1909P, 1910P, bare head facing right, des. below, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, P mintmark on ground, date in exergue (Bentley 854, 855, 856; McD 230, 233, 236; QM 184, 185, 186; KM 15; Fr 34; Marsh 201, 202, 203; S 3972). All with scuffs and surface marks, first with scratches behind head, otherwise extremely fine, the second with digs on cheek, otherwise about extremely fine, the third with obverse rim nick, otherwise good very fine. (3) £550-650

Calendar year mintages 4,875,617; 4,524,241; 4,690,625 respectively. Total mintage for Edward VII Perth mint pieces dated from 1902 to 1910 = 42,239,443 pieces.

Perth Mint George V Sovereigns



2179 *G* George V (1910-1936), Gold Sovereigns (3), 1911P, 1912P, 1913P, Perth mint, designed by Edgar Bertram Mackennal, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, toothed border and raised rim, GEORGIVS V D: G: BRITT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, rev struck en médaille, engraved after Benedetto Pistrucci, St George slaying dragon with sword, helmet with three strand streamer, horse with long tail, broken lance on groundline to left, WWP in relief under lance, P mintmark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim (Bentley 857, 858, 859; McD 239, 242, 245; QM 187, 188, 189; KM 29; Fr 40; Marsh 250, 251, 252; S 4001). All with scuffs and surface marks, first with obverse rim nick, extremely fine, the second with some light red deposit both sides, otherwise extremely fine, the third good very fine. (3) £600-800

Calendar year mintages 4,373,165; 4,278,144; 4,635,287 respectively



2180 *G* George V, Gold Sovereigns (3), 1914P, 1915P, 1917P, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop weak and small, rev with die axis slightly off-centre, St George slaying dragon with sword, P mintmark on ground, date in exergue (Bentley 860, 861, 863; McD 248, 251, 257; QM 190, 191, 193; KM 29; Fr 40; Marsh 253, 254, 256; S 4001). All with scuffs and surface marks, first with reverse rim nick, about extremely fine, the second with scratch on King's temple, otherwise extremely fine, the third with dig in hair, otherwise good very fine. (3) £600-800

Calendar year mintages 4,815,996; 4,373,596; 4,110,286 respectively



2181 *G* George V, Gold Sovereign, 1916P, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop weak and small, rev with die axis slightly off-centre, St George slaying dragon with sword, P mintmark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley 862; McD 254; QM 192; KM 29; Fr 40; Marsh 255 S; S 4001). A few light surface marks and rim nicks, otherwise good extremely fine. £200-300

Calendar year mintage 4,096,771



2182 G George V, Gold Sovereigns (3), 1918P, 1919P, 1920P, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop weak and small, rev with die axis slightly off-centre, St George slaying dragon with sword, P mintmark on ground, date in exergue (Bentley 864, 865, 866; McD 260, 263, 266; QM 194, 195, 198; KM 29; Fr 40; Marsh 257, 258, 259; S 4001). All with scuffs and surface marks, first bold very fine, the second almost extremely fine, the third very fine / extremely fine. (3)

£550-650

Calendar year mintages 3,812,884; 2,995,216; 2,421,196 respectively



2183 G George V, Gold Sovereigns (4), 1921P, 1922P, 1923P, 1924P, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop absent, rev with die axis slightly off-centre, St George slaying dragon with sword, P mintmark on ground, date in exergue (Bentley 867, 868, 869, 870; McD 269, 272, 275, 278; QM 201, 204, 207, 210; KM 29; Fr 40; Marsh 260, 261, 262, 263; S 4001). All with scuffs and surface marks, heavier marks on last coin, first with nicks on bust, very fine / about extremely fine, the second very fine / extremely fine, the third with reverse rim nick and residual dirt around rim, otherwise very fine / extremely fine, the last with rim nicks on both sides, very fine. (4)

£700-900

Calendar year mintages 2,314,360; 2,298,884; 2,124,154; 1,464,416 respectively



2184 G George V, Gold Sovereigns (3), 1925P, 1927P, 1928P, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop absent, parts of legend lightly die flawed, rev with die axis slightly off-centre, St George slaying dragon with sword, P mintmark on ground, date in exergue (Bentley 871, 873, 874; McD 281, 286, 287; QM 213, 217, 219; KM 29; Fr 40; Marsh 264, 266, 267; S 4001). A few light surface marks, dark tone, otherwise good extremely fine and scarce. (3)

£550-650

Calendar year mintages 1,837,901; 1,383,544; 1,333,417 respectively. 1928 is the last year the W.W.P. initials appear under the broken lance. These initials are relict from the time of George IV being the Master of the Mint's initials William Wellesley Pole, brother of the Duke of Wellington.

The Rare George V 1926 Perth Mint Currency Sovereign



2185 G George V, Gold Sovereign, 1926P, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop weak and small, GEORGIVS V D: G: BRITT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, rev with die axis slightly off-centre, St George slaying dragon with sword, P mintmark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley 872; McD 284; QM 216 S; KM 29; Fr 40; Marsh 265 R; S 4001). Surface marks and some scuffing, otherwise about extremely fine and the hardest date to find in the George V Perth series.

£1000-1200

Calendar year mintage 1,313,578



2186 ♂ George V, Gold Sovereigns (3), 1929P, 1930P, 1931P, second smaller head left, BM on truncation, no stops, linear outer circle with grained border teeth compartments and rim both sides, GEORGIVS V D: G: BRITT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, rev slightly smaller design therefore with a deeper exergue, St George slaying dragon with sword, no WWP initials under lance anymore, P mintmark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley 875, 876, 877; McD 290, 292, 294; QM 221, 223, 225; KM 29; Fr 39; Marsh 268, 269 R, 270; S 4002). *Surface marks and hairlines on all pieces, a little heavier on last piece, otherwise generally extremely fine, second with weaker reverse.* (3) £600-800

Calendar year mintages 1,606,625; 1,915,352; 1,173,568 respectively

The new second smaller bust is introduced from 1929 with a revised reverse design with a deeper exergue and no initials under the lance. Total mintage of George V Perth mint Sovereigns dated from 1911 to 1931 = 56,366,294 pieces.

The total output of gold Sovereigns from the Perth mint = 106,384,197 which includes pieces sent for pyx trial, however the breakdown of dates for the 2,312,046 pieces sent for such assay from 1899-1931, are unknown and not included in the calendar year totals quoted for Perth mint pieces.

Canada

Ottawa Mint

Canadian Government requests a mint 1900

Funding allowed for a mint at Ottawa by Canadian House of Commons 1901

Building of mint commences 1905

Canada mint opens 2 January 1908

Last date issued for gold Sovereigns 1919

For further reading please Bentley Collection Special Edition Catalogue, page 412

The Extremely Rare 1908 Canada Sovereign Struck to a Satin Specimen Finish



2187 ♂ Edward VII (1901-1910), Gold Satin Finish Proof Sovereign, 1908C, Ottawa, Canada mint, engraved by George William De Saulles, bare head facing right, des. below, toothed border and raised rim, EDWARDVS VII D: G: BRITT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, rev struck en médaille, engraved after Benedetto Pistrucci, St George slaying dragon with sword, cloak with complete hemline, two strand helmet streamer, horse with long tail, broken lance on groundline to left, WWP in relief under lance, C mintmark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim (Bentley 879; KM 14; Fr 1; Marsh 183 R6; S 3970). *Once cleaned with associated hairlines, otherwise good extremely fine and extremely rare.* £6000-8000

Calendar year mintage 636 including 10 which were sent for pyx trial

All the 1908 Canada specimens were struck to this satin finish in commemoration of the inauguration of the Ottawa Mint.



2188 *g* **Edward VII**, Gold Sovereign, 1909C, bare head facing right, des. below, EDWARDVS VII D: G: BRITT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, C mintmark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley 881; KM 14; Fr 1; Marsh 184 R2; S 3970). Once cleaned with heavy surface marks, very fine and rare. £250-350

Calendar year mintage 16,273 including 27 which were sent for pyx trial



2189 *g* **Edward VII**, Gold Sovereign, 1910C, bare head facing right, des. below, EDWARDVS VII D: G: BRITT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, C mintmark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley 882; KM 14; Fr 1; Marsh 185 R2; S 3970). Once cleaned with light surface marks, good very fine and rare. £300-350

Calendar year mintage 28,012 including 8 which were sent for pyx trial
A total of 44,285 Canadian mint Sovereigns were produced in the reign of Edward VII

Canada Mint George V Sovereigns



2190 *g* **George V (1910-1936)**, Gold Sovereign, 1911C, designed by Edgar Bertram Mackennal, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, toothed border and raised rim, GEORGIVS V D: G: BRITT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, rev struck en médaille, engraved after Benedetto Pistrucci, St George slaying dragon with sword, helmet with three strand streamer, horse with long tail, broken lance on groundline to left, wwp in relief under lance, C mintmark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim (Bentley 884; KM 20; Fr 2; Marsh 221 S; S 3997). Some light surface marks, otherwise toned, extremely fine. £200-300

Calendar year mintage 256,946 including 102 which were sent for pyx trial



2191 G George V, Gold Sovereign, 1913C, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, GEORGIVS V D: G: BRITT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, C mintmark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley 885; KM 20; Fr 2; Marsh 222 R4; S 3997). Some light surface marks, once cleaned, otherwise extremely fine and very rare. £800-1000

Calendar year mintage 3715 including 2 which were sent for pyx trial



2192 G George V, Gold Sovereign, 1914C, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, GEORGIVS V D: G: BRITT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, C mintmark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley 886; KM 20; Fr 2; Marsh 223 R3; S 3997). Some light surface marks both sides, rim nicks on reverse, otherwise extremely fine, scarce. £500-600

Calendar year mintage 14,891 including 9 which were sent for pyx trial

The Key Date to the Canadian Sovereign Series the George V 1916C



2193 G George V, Gold Sovereign, 1916C, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, GEORGIVS V D: G: BRITT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, C mintmark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley 887; KM 20; Fr 2; Marsh 224 R5; S 3997). Once cleaned, nick in front of horse's neck, otherwise extremely fine and extremely rare, the key date. £10,000-12,000

Calendar year mintage 6111 including 8 which were sent for pyx trial

The mintage was low, World War I was raging in Europe and much gold that was minted may have been melted down not long after. The rarest Canadian currency Sovereign in commerce today, the 1916 Canada represents the pinnacle and the biggest challenge to the collector of this series.



2194 G George V, Gold Sovereign, 1917C, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, GEORGIVS V D: G: BRITT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, C mintmark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley 888; KM 20; Fr 2; Marsh 225 R; S 3997). Light surface marks, toned, extremely fine. £200-300

Calendar year mintage 58,845 including 30 which were sent for pyx trial



2195 G George V, Gold Sovereign, 1918C, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, GEORGIVS V D: G: BRITT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, C mintmark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley 889; KM 20; Fr 2; Marsh 226; S 3997). Once cleaned with light surface marks, extremely fine. £250-350

Calendar year mintage 106,516 including 54 which were sent for pyx trial



2196 G George V, Gold Sovereign, 1919C, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, GEORGIVS V D: G: BRITT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, C mintmark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley 890; KM 20; Fr 2; Marsh 227; S 3997). A few tiny surface marks, otherwise good extremely fine, scarce. £250-350

Calendar year mintage 135,889 including 68 which were sent for pyx trial. The mintage of gold Sovereigns in Ottawa ceases after this date.

A total of 583,549 Canada mint Sovereigns were produced in the reign of George V. When coupled with the production of Edward VII pieces, a total output of a mere 627,834 pieces is the result; the smallest output for any Royal Mint Branch.

India

Bombay Mint (now Mumbai)

Proposed since the late 19th Century
Building commences 21 December 1917
First Sovereign struck 15 August 1918
Last Sovereign struck 22 April 1919
Mint closes May 1919

For further reading please Bentley Collection Special Edition Catalogue, page 418



2197 *g* George V (1910-1936), Gold Sovereign, 1918I, designed by Edgar Bertram Mackennal, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, toothed border and raised rim, GEORGIVS V D: G: BRITT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, rev struck en médaille, engraved after Benedetto Pistrucci, St George slaying dragon with sword, helmet with three strand streamer, horse with long tail, broken lance on groundline to left, WWP in relief under lance, I mintmark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim (Bentley 892; KM 20; Fr 2; Marsh 228; S 3997). *Light surface marks, extremely fine.* £200-300

Total mintage of gold Sovereigns at Bombay = 1,295,372.

This mintage is greater than the whole output of gold sovereigns from the contemporary Canadian mint in Ottawa.

The Royal Mint has licensed a new "India Mint" gold Sovereign dated for 2013 struck by MMTC-PAMP using tools made by the Royal Mint in Llantrisant, Wales, with a maximum production total of 50,000 pieces. Not many examples of this new issue have found their way to the UK market-place and the Hemisphere Collection does not contain one.

South Africa

Pretoria Mint

First Imperial type Sovereign dated 1923
Last Imperial type Sovereign dated 1932
For further reading please Bentley Collection Special Edition Catalogue page, 433

The Very Rare 1923 South Africa Proof Sovereign



2198 *g* George V (1910-1936), Gold Proof Sovereign, 1923SA, Pretoria mint, designed by Edgar Bertram Mackennal, bare head left, BM on truncation, no stops as the initials are placed too low on the truncation, toothed border and raised rim, GEORGIVS V D: G: BRITT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, rev struck en médaille, engraved after Benedetto Pistrucci, St George slaying dragon with sword, helmet with three strand streamer, horse with long tail, ending in three strands, with one spur higher up at curve, broken lance on groundline to left, WWP in relief under lance, SA mintmark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim, edge milled (Bentley 919; Hern S338; KM 21; Fr 5; Marsh -; S 4004). *Some light hairlines, otherwise brilliant as struck and rare.* £1000-1200

Mintage 655 pieces as part of the proof sets of all denominations dated for the initial year of operation of the Imperial Pretoria mint

The Extremely Rare 1923 South Africa Currency Sovereign



2199 *G* George V, Gold Sovereign, 1923SA, Pretoria mint, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, GEORGIVS V D: G: BRITT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, *rev* die axis a touch off-centre, St George slaying dragon with sword, SA mintmark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley 920; Hern S338 and note; Kaplan 100 RRRR; KM 21; Fr 5; Marsh 287 R6; S 4004). One scratch to left of horse tail, light surface marks, otherwise brilliant extremely fine, extremely rare. £2500-3000

Calendar year mintage 719

The low mintage of 1923SA Sovereigns was dictated entirely by how much gold was brought in to the mint refine in its first months of operation. Only enough gold came in to mint up to 719 pieces for currency circulation. Sources vary in their quotes for the mintage, some say incorrectly as little as 64 which has been arrived at by taking 719 totalled here minus the 655 proofs which is wrong. Marsh quotes 406 pieces. The 719 figure comes from earlier sources and is later quoted in the South African based publications.

The Extremely Rare 1924 South Africa Currency Sovereign



2200 *G* George V, Gold Sovereign, 1924SA, Pretoria mint, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, GEORGIVS V D: G: BRITT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, SA mintmark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley 921; Hern S339; Kaplan 101 RRR; KM 21; Fr 5; Marsh 288 R5; S 4004). A few bagmarks, perhaps once lightly cleaned, otherwise good extremely fine and extremely rare. £6000-8000

Calendar year mintage 3,184

Again sources disagree on the number struck, and again we have quoted the earlier source with the higher number, from *Sovereigns of the British Empire* by Capt JJ Cullimore-Allen with which Hern agrees. Marsh quotes the number at 2660.



2201 g **George V, Gold Sovereign, 1925SA, Pretoria mint, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop weak and small, GEORGIVS V D: G: BRITT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, small raised die flaw from tip of lance, SA mintmark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley 922; Hern S340; Kaplan 102; KM 21; Fr 5; Marsh 289; S 4004). Some light marks, otherwise extremely fine.** £200-300

Calendar year mintage 6,086,264



2202 g **George V, Gold Sovereigns (3), 1926SA, 1927SA, 1928SA, Pretoria mint, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, first with latter stop weak and small, others with latter stop absent, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, SA mintmark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley 923, 924, 925; Hern S341, S342, S343; Kaplan 103, 104, 105; KM 21; Fr 5; Marsh 290, 291, 292; S 4004). All with light surface marks, first about extremely fine, the second with hairline scratch by eye, black spot behind horse tail, good very fine, the last with hairline scratch from eyebrow into field, about extremely fine. (3)** £600-800

Calendar year mintages 11,107,611; 16,379,704; 18,235,057, the latter represents the highest mintage from the Pretoria mint of Imperial type gold Sovereigns. 1928 is the last year the W.W.P. initials appear under the broken lance. These initials are relict from the time of George IV, being the Master of the Mint's initials William Wellesley Pole, brother of the Duke of Wellington.



2203 g **George V, Gold Sovereigns (4), 1929SA, 1930SA, 1931SA, 1932SA, Pretoria mint, second smaller bare head left, BM on truncation, no stops, rev smaller St George slaying dragon with sword, SA mintmark on ground, date in deeper exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right (Bentley 928, 929, 930, 931; Hern S344, S345, S346, S347; Kaplan 106, 107, 108, 109; KM 21; Fr 5; Marsh 293, 294, 295, 296; S 4005). All with light surface marks, generally about extremely fine to extremely fine, last with some scuffs on neck. (4)** £800-1000

Calendar year mintages 12,024,107; 10,027,756; 8,511,792; 1,066,680

The new second smaller bust is introduced from 1929, with a revised reverse design with a deeper exergue and no initials under the lance.

1932 marks the last year of operation for minting gold Sovereigns of the Imperial type at any of the branch mints, a total of 83,442,874 currency Sovereigns were struck from 1923-1932 in Pretoria under King George V. This figure does not include the 655 proofs of the date 1923.

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2.2. Lots by their nature are usually aged and varied in condition. The absence of any description of a defect, damage, modification or restoration in any Catalogue does not imply that there are none.

2.3. Coins are graded to accepted UK standards to the best ability of our specialists. You acknowledge that the grading of coins is subjective and may vary from specialist to specialist, as the process is by nature an art and not a science. For this reason, we do not automatically accept and are not bound by the opinions of third party coin grading services for any purposes including before and after the sale of a Lot.

2.4. If you are interested in a Lot, we strongly recommend that you view it in person before the Auction and form your own opinion of the description of the Lot.

2.5. We reserve the right to change any aspect of the published description of a Lot prior to the auction. Any change may be published on our website, displayed at the auction, announced by the auctioneer prior to the sale and/or communicated in any other manner.

2.6. All copyright in Catalogues including images belongs to Baldwin's.

3. ABSENTEE COMMISSION BIDS

3.1. If you are unable to attend the Auction personally, you may submit a Commission Bid and we will endeavour to purchase the Lot on your behalf for the lowest price possible. You must submit this in writing using the Commission Bid Form and send it to us by post, fax, email or delivery to our offices at least 24 hours prior to the Auction.

3.2. For all Commission Bids, you must supply your name and address, contact telephone number and email. You must also provide the Lot number and description of the Lot, the amount of your Bid and any other information requested in the Commission Bid Form or by us. It is your responsibility to provide the correct information and to ensure that we have received your Commission Bid.

3.3. We do not charge for this service and therefore we will not incur any liability for executing (or failing to execute) the Commission Bid.

3.4. If you submit a Commission Bid verbally (whether by telephone or otherwise), we shall not be responsible for any misunderstandings (by either us or our agents or you) in relation to your Bid. All bids made in this way must be confirmed in writing before the auction.

3.5. If we receive two Commission Bids for equal value for the same Lot, the Bid received first by us shall take precedence.

3.6. "Buy" commissions [and unlimited Commission Bids] will not be accepted.

4. AUCTION SALE

4.1. Before the auction, all potential Bidders must notify their name and address to the auctioneer and if required provide proof of identity to our satisfaction and bank or other credit references.

4.2. The highest Bidder for each Lot shall be the Buyer. If there is a dispute, the auctioneer shall have absolute discretion to determine the dispute including re-offering the disputed Lot for sale.

4.3. A Bidder must submit a bid for an entire Lot and each lot constitutes a separate sale. The auctioneer shall however have an absolute discretion to divide any Lot, to combine any two or more Lots, or to withdraw any Lot from the auction without giving any reason (including after the hammer has fallen). Bidding shall be regulated at the absolute discretion of the auctioneer. The auctioneer has the right to refuse any bid.

4.4. Subject to Condition 4.2, the contract for the sale of the Lot is concluded on the fall of the hammer.

4.5. All Lots are offered for sale subject to any Reserve.

4.6. You cannot cancel your purchase of a Lot once the hammer has fallen.

5. PAYMENT

5.1. The Purchase Price payable by a Buyer is the Hammer Price plus a Buyer's Premium of 20% of the Hammer Price. VAT is payable in addition unless the Lot is exempt or zero-rated.

5.2. The symbol 'G' appearing next to a lot in this catalogue denotes the item is 'Investment Gold' and, therefore, a VAT-registered trader can submit a claim to H M Revenue and Customs to recover the VAT element of the Buyers' Premium.

5.3. Any lot marked with a dagger (†) is subject to import VAT at 5%, this will be added to the hammer price and is payable by the buyer if resident in the EU. If the lot is being exported outside the EU, this import VAT can be waived or refunded on proof of export.

5.4. The Buyer of a Lot shall pay the Purchase Price in full before the Lot can be delivered to the Buyer.

5.5. Except where Condition 5.4 applies, any part of the Purchase Price outstanding after the Auction shall be payable by you within 14 days of the date of the auction, the due date.

5.6. The Purchase Price is payable by you in full. You are not entitled to set-off any amounts that you claim are due from us or anyone else or make any other deductions.

5.7. Unless we have agreed in writing otherwise, you shall act on your own account as principal in respect of the sale and therefore if you accept a commission from a third party to bid on their behalf, you do so at your own risk and will remain personally liable (jointly with your principal) to us for the Purchase Price in accordance with these Conditions.

5.8. The methods of payment and surcharges are set out in the Catalogue.

5.9. If the Purchase Price has not been settled within 30 days of the auction date a £50 late payment fee will be added and interest will be charged at 2% per month from the due date of payment to the date that cleared funds are received whether that is before or after any legal judgment. This is without prejudice to any other rights that we have for non-payment.

5.10. If you fail to comply with your obligations under these Conditions, the Lot, in respect of such non-compliance, may at our discretion be put up for sale at auction or privately and resold. In this case, you will be liable in full and will indemnify us for all losses, costs and expenses (including legal costs) incurred as a result, including the costs of the resale and the amount (if any) by which the Hammer Price obtained on the resale is less than the Hammer Price obtained on the original sale of the Lot to the Buyer.

6. RISK, TITLE AND DELIVERY

6.1. The risk of damage/loss to the Lot will pass to the Buyer on the fall of the hammer. Title in a Lot will not pass to the Buyer until the Purchase Price has been paid in full.

6.2. Unless agreed by us, you should collect the Lot within 7 days of the date of the auction. We reserve the right to charge for storage and to resell by auction or privately without notice to you, if a Lot is not collected. Alternatively we will send the Lot to you by recorded post. Postage and insurance costs will be charged as additional costs.

6.3. Except in relation to Forgeries, you must satisfy yourself that the correct Lot has been delivered to you at the time of collection/delivery. We will not be responsible for any discrepancy which might be discovered after the Lots have been collected. If we have shipped the Lot to you, we will not be responsible for any discrepancies if you fail to notify us within 24 hours of receipt.

6.4. It is the Buyer's responsibility to obtain any necessary import, export or other licences required in relation to a Lot.

7. GUARANTEE FOR FORGERIES

7.1. Baldwin's is a member of the International Association of Professional Numismatists and in accordance with the conditions of membership, provide a guarantee to the Buyer for all Lots against Forgeries on the terms set out in these Conditions ("Guarantee").

7.2. For the purposes of these Conditions, a 'Forgery' means an imitation that has been created with the fraudulent intent to deceive in respect of the authorship, origin, date, age, period and the correct

description does not correspond with the description in the Catalogue and as a result has a value significantly less than it would have been had it been genuine.

7.3. You must notify us in writing within one month of you becoming aware that the Lot may be a Forgery. The Lot must be returned to us in the same condition as at the time of sale and you must submit evidence that the Lot is a Forgery, the onus being on you to prove that it is a Forgery.

7.4. You acknowledge that:

(a) we reserve the right to re-assess the Lot or engage at our expense any expert or authority considered by us at our sole discretion to have the necessary expertise to undertake a re-assessment of the Lot;

(b) following our re-assessment of the Lot, you agree to be bound by our decision as to whether or not the Lot is a Forgery.

7.5. You shall not be entitled to a refund for a Forgery if:

(a) the grounds for claiming that the Lot is a Forgery is based primarily on a difference of opinion between us and a third party providing coin grading services;

(b) the grounds for claiming that the Lot is a Forgery is by reason of any damage and/or restoration and/or modification work of any nature;

(c) the description of the Lot in the catalogue was in accordance with generally accepted opinions of numismatic specialists as at the date of publication or the catalogue indicated that there was a conflict of opinion.

(d) it has been proved that the Lot is a Forgery by applying a method that was unavailable or not generally applied within the industry of numismatics as at the date of publication of the catalogue or was disproportionately expensive, in both cases as determined in our absolute discretion.

7.6. If we agree that the Lot is a Forgery then subject to:

(a) you being able to confirm in writing that you can transfer legal and beneficial title to the Lot to us or as directed by us free from all encumbrances or third party claims of any nature; and

(b) the exclusions in Condition 7.7,

then the sale of the Lot will be rescinded so that it is cancelled and we will refund the Purchase Price to you in full.

7.7. Your right to return the Lot and receive a refund of the Hammer Price under the Guarantee is your sole remedy against us, our agents and sub-contractors and/or the Seller for a Forgery. You will not be entitled to claim interest on the amount due to you. Neither we, our agents or sub-contractors nor the Seller shall be liable for costs, expenses, damages or any other liability however it arises relating to a Forgery.

7.8. In accordance with the restriction in Condition 10.2, the benefit of the Guarantee is personal to the original Buyer and is not transferable to a new owner of the Lot or any other person.

8. EXCLUSION OF LIABILITY

8.1. Except where these Conditions expressly state otherwise, no warranty is given to a Buyer concerning a Lot and each Lot is sold as shown with all faults, imperfections, errors of description (including authorship, origin, age, size, condition or value) or lack of authenticity or genuineness and neither we nor the Seller nor any of our agents or sub-contractors will be liable for any damages, costs, expenses or any other liability arising out of the same whether or not caused by negligence.

8.2. Our maximum liability under these Conditions is the amount of the Purchase Price paid by you.

8.3. Neither we nor any of our agents or sub-contractors shall be liable, whether in tort (including negligence or breach of statutory duty), contract, misrepresentation or otherwise:

(a) for loss of profits or business, depletion of goodwill and/or similar losses; loss of contracts; or

(b) any special, indirect, consequential or pure economic loss, costs, damages, charges or expenses.

8.4. We shall not be liable to you or be deemed to be in breach of these Conditions by reason of any delay in performing, or any failure to perform, any of our obligations in the Conditions, if the delay or failure was due to any cause beyond our reasonable control.

8.5. Nothing in these Conditions excludes or limits our liability for any matter which it would be illegal for us to exclude or attempt to exclude under English law or for our fraud or fraudulent misrepresentation.

9. DATA PROTECTION

9.1. By agreeing to these Conditions, a Bidder acknowledges and agrees that we will use personal information of a Bidder for the purpose of the auction and ancillary matters, including providing a Buyer's personal details to any other person where necessary to enforce our rights under these Conditions.

10. GENERAL

10.1. These Conditions and the Seller's Conditions constitute the entire agreement between us. All other terms, warranties and representations, express or implied by statute or otherwise are excluded to the fullest extent permitted by law. No variation to these Conditions shall be legally binding unless agreed in writing by us.

10.2. All rights and benefits granted to a Bidder under these Conditions are personal to him and may not be assigned or in any other way transferred to any other person. Any such assignment or transfer will be invalid and unenforceable against us.

10.3. A notice required or permitted to be given by either of us to the other under these Conditions shall, in the case of a Bidder, be to the last address notified to us and in the case of Baldwin's, shall be to its registered office.

10.4. No failure or delay by us in exercising any of our rights under these Conditions shall be deemed to be a waiver of that right, and no waiver by us of any breach of these Conditions by you shall be considered as a waiver of any subsequent breach of the same or any other provision.

10.5. We may perform our obligations and exercise our respective rights through any of our group companies or assign our rights under these Conditions.

10.6. If any provision of these Conditions is held by any court or other competent authority to be invalid or unenforceable in whole or in part, the validity of the other provisions and the remainder of the provision in question shall not be affected.

10.7. English law shall apply to these Conditions and we both agree to the English courts having exclusive jurisdiction.

11. INTERPRETATION

11.1. In these Conditions:

'Baldwins', 'auctioneer', 'us' or 'we' means A H Baldwin & Sons Limited;

'Bidder' and 'you' means a person making, attempting to make or considering making a bid for a Lot including a Buyer;

'Buyer' means the person who makes the highest bid for a Lot which is accepted by the auctioneer and if the person is acting as an agent, will be a reference to its principal only if Baldwin's has accepted the agency in writing;

'Catalogue' means a catalogue, price list or other publication or price list;

'Commission Bid' means an instruction from a Bidder to us to bid on their behalf at the auction;

'Conditions' means these conditions of sale and any other additional terms notified to Bidders in writing in a Catalogue or otherwise (which includes notices displayed at the Auction) or as agreed in writing between Baldwin's and the Bidder;

'Guarantee' has the meaning set out in Condition 7.1;

'Hammer Price' means the amount of the highest bid for a Lot accepted by the auctioneer;

'including' or 'include' mean including without limitation and include without limitation, respectively;

'Lot' means any item deposited with us for sale at auction including items described against any Lot number in a Catalogue;

'Purchase Price' means the Hammer Price plus buyer's premium and VAT where applicable;

'Reserve' means a confidential price below which the auctioneer will not sell a Lot or will re-purchase on behalf of the Seller or for the account of Baldwin's. Unless otherwise specified at the time of Lot consignment, this will be set at approximately 80% of the Lot estimate at complete discretion of the auctioneer;

'Seller's Conditions' means the terms and conditions of sale between Baldwin's and a Seller for the sale of a Lot as displayed in the auction room, on our website or available from Baldwin's.

11.2. Headings in these Conditions are for convenience only and shall not affect their interpretation.



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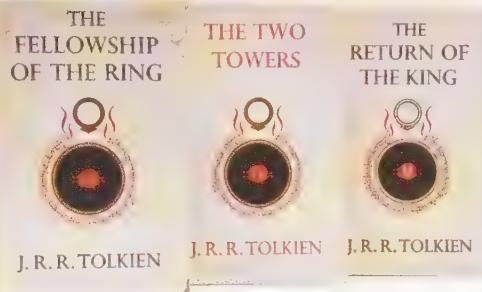
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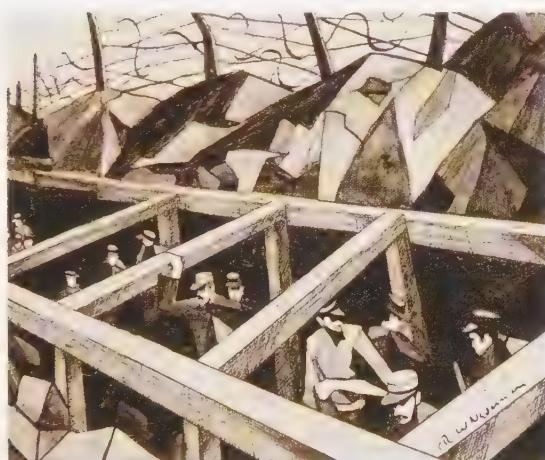


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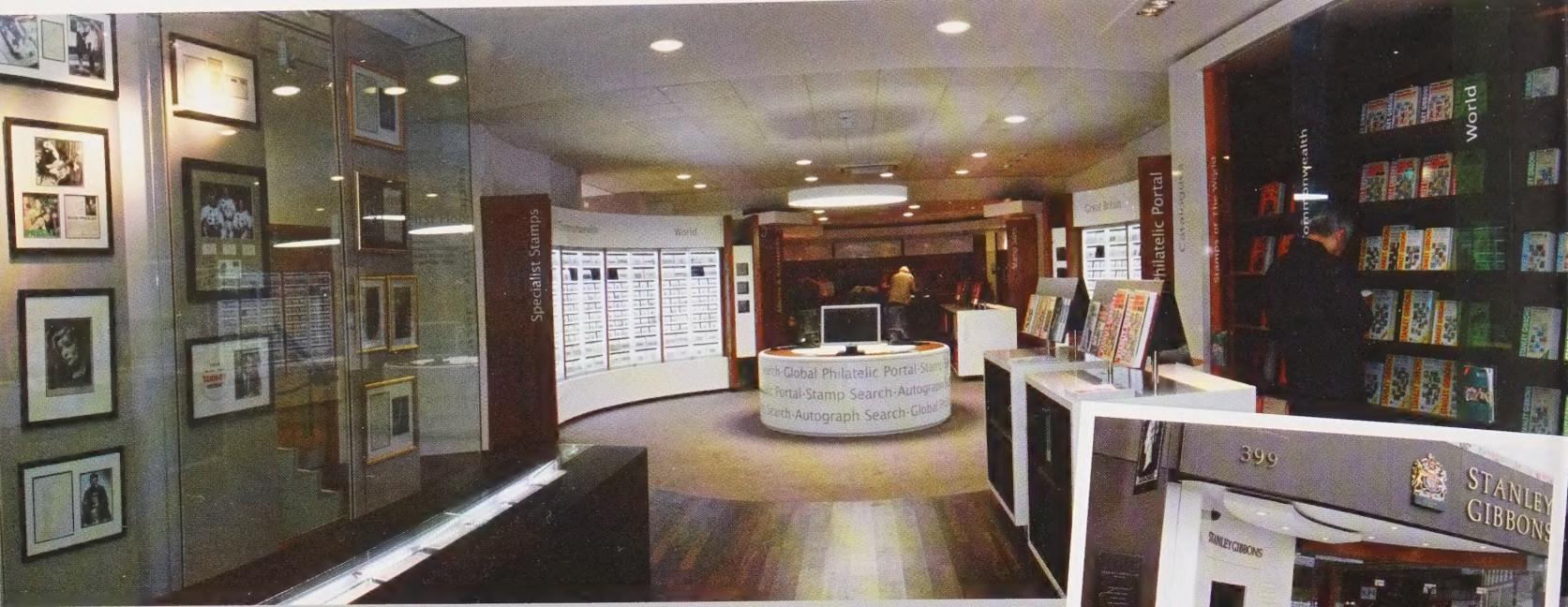




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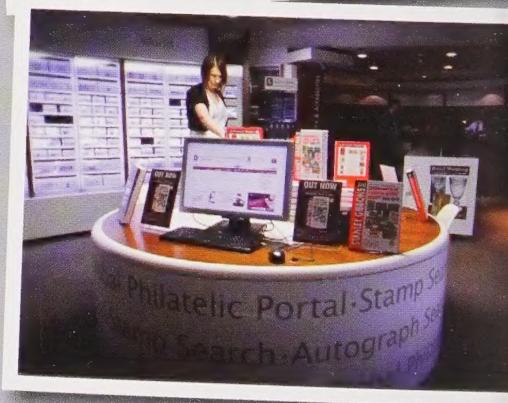
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Baldwin's Hong Kong Coin Auction 56, Far Eastern and World Coins, Medals and Banknotes
Apex Philatelic, Postal Auction 131, General Stamps

Hong Kong, 3 April 2014
 Postal, 24 April 2014

May 2014

Baldwin's Auction 86, The Arielle Collection of British Colonial Coins (Part Two)
 Europe, Asia, Oceania and the Caribbean

London, 6 May 2014

Baldwin's Auction 87, The Linden Collection (European Coins)
 World Coins, Medals and Books from Other Properties

London, 7 May 2014

Baldwin's Auction 88, The Hemisphere Collection of Gold Sovereigns

London, 8 May 2014

Baldwin's Auction 89, Indian Coins, including coins from the Linden Collection

London, 8 May 2014

The Military Sale, Medals, Orders, Decorations and Militaria

London, 29 May 2014

This auction will be held at Dreweatts London saleroom, 24 Maddox Street

June 2014

Baldwin's Summer Argentum Auction, Ancient, British and World Coins and Medals
 Held in conjunction with the London Coin Fair, Holiday Inn

London, 7 June 2014

Consignment Deadline: 23 April 2014

Apex Philatelic, Postal Auction 132, General Stamps

Postal, 12 June 2014

July 2014

Baldwin's Islamic Auction 26, Coins of the Islamic World
 Consignment Deadline: 1 May 2014

London, July 2014

Apex Philatelic, Public Auction 133, General Stamps
 Consignment Deadline: 1 May 2014

Lingfield, 27 July 2014

August 2014

Baldwin's Hong Kong Coin Auction 57, Far Eastern and World Coins, Medals and Banknotes
 Consignment Deadline: 2 June 2014

Hong Kong, 21 August 2014

September 2014

Baldwin's Auction 90, The Linden Collection (World Coins)

London, 24 September 2014

Baldwin's Auction 91, Ancient and World Coins and Commemorative Medals
 Consignment Deadline: 7 July 2014

London, 25 September 2014

Apex Philatelic, Postal Auction 134, General Stamps
 Consignment Deadline: 7 July 2014

Postal, 25 September 2014

Baldwin's Auction 92, British 18th Century Tokens
 Consignment Deadline: 7 July 2014

London, 30 September 2014

November 2014

Baldwin's Winter Argentum Auction, Ancient, British and World Coins and Medals
 Held in conjunction with the London Coin Fair, Holiday Inn
 Consignment Deadline: 17 September 2014

London, 1 November 2014

January 2015

Baldwin's The New York Sale XXXIV, Ancient Coins

New York, 6 January 2015

Baldwin's The New York Sale XXXV, Ancient and World Coins
 Consignment Deadline: 2 October 2014

New York, 7 January 2015

Baldwin's The New York Sale XXXVI, Russian Coins and Medals
 Consignment Deadline: 2 October 2014

New York, 8 January 2015

[N.B: These dates are provisional only and may be subject to change. Additional dates may be added later.]

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